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OVS Newsletter

May 20, 2020

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Upcoming Events

* + [WebEx Online Trainings Available](https://pccd.webex.com/mw3300/mywebex/default.do?nomenu=true&siteurl=pccd&service=6&rnd=0.6668060301536507&main_url=https%3A%2F%2Fpccd.webex.com%2Fec3300%2Feventcenter%2Fprogram%2FprogramDetail.do%3FtheAction%3Ddetail%26internalProgramTicket%3D4832534b00000004f02f8b04a9132f726e6e4ce186c5f64209c4f9e1a94f0342f2c72bee2d69d4a5%26siteurl%3Dpccd%26internalProgramTicketUnList%3D4832534b00000004f02f8b04a9132f726e6e4ce186c5f64209c4f9e1a94f0342f2c72bee2d69d4a5%26cProgViewID%3D1727107%26PRID%3D9c0a5f356b9ee12dc7de27fe147bb352)Compensation Related: Basic Compensation and much more!

Credits towards VOCA/RASA/VOJO training requirements are available for all sessions (unless indicated otherwise in the session description). To receive training credits: 1) you must be logged into the session and 2) the WebEx application must be on your computer for the entire duration of the session. As the OVS recognizes that emergencies may arise and you may not be able to attend the entire session, there is no prohibition against attending part of a session (although training credits will not be given in that instance).

* + [Additional RASA/VOJO/VOCA Approved Training](http://reachingvictims.org/resource/national-strategy-session-on-sustaining-services-session-1/)

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# [Federal Coronavirus Relief Act (CARES Act)](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.congress.gov%2Fbill%2F116th-congress%2Fhouse-bill%2F748%2Ftext&data=02%7C01%7Ckabuckley%40pa.gov%7C7ac312f6c87645ee99b208d7fc009b4f%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637254954965117876&sdata=GynB4CWQW97i9mmC%2FXl2bhEHfGgbaxGxcjsp1zbGUv0%3D&reserved=0" \t "_blank) Funding Availability For Counties

With the passage of the [Federal Coronavirus Relief Act (CARES Act)](https://www.evawintl.org/WebinarDetail.aspx?url=https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/748/text&data=02|01|kabuckley@pa.gov|7ac312f6c87645ee99b208d7fc009b4f|418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde|0|0|637254954965117876&sdata=GynB4CWQW97i9mmC/Xl2bhEHfGgbaxGxcjsp1zbGUv0=&reserved=0), PCCD has been tasked with distributing available funding to support state and local law enforcement's efforts in preventing, preparing for, and responding to the COVID-19/coronavirus. To assist in determining the funding strategy of these funds, you may remember that PCCD administered a survey in April 2020 to chief administrators of criminal justice system stakeholders to ascertain levels of need throughout the Commonwealth. Many of you, as victim service providers, completed this survey.

To that end, PCCD released a funding solicitation to initially make available approximately one-half of Pennsylvania’s eligible state share CESF dollars ($8,000,000) to PA counties for the express purpose of providing support to each county’s law enforcement community, which includes, but is not limited to, county jails, juvenile detention centers, local law enforcement, district attorney’s offices, county probation and parole offices, judiciary/court houses, victim service providers and any other relevant criminal justice stakeholders.

It’s important to note that this funding announcement is open to Pennsylvania counties with active county Criminal Justice Advisory Boards (CJABs) that follow [CJAB Minimum Operating Standards](https://victimresearch.org/get-connected/webinars/?url=https://www.pccd.pa.gov/criminaljustice/advisory_boards/Documents/CJAB%20Minimum%20Operating%20Standards.pdf&data=02|01|kabuckley@pa.gov|7ac312f6c87645ee99b208d7fc009b4f|418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde|0|0|637254954965117876&sdata=inAJtTpgiS7DqT79K/SQKM1br3SpKrsCR0vBdSXhON8=&reserved=0) or an alternative as described in the funding announcement.  CJABs will be responsible for coordinating the application for their county and local criminal justice stakeholders (i.e., county jails, juvenile detention centers, law enforcement, district attorney’s offices, county probation and parole offices, judiciary/court houses, victim service providers and any other relevant criminal justice stakeholders). Victim Service providers are not eligible to apply directly to PCCD for these funds but should contact their CJAB regarding any immediate PPE/supply needs, if their current VOCA funding is not sufficient to support these items. If you are not sure who the CJAB contact is in your area, please visit the CJAB information located on PCCD’s website at [https://www.pccd.pa.gov/criminaljustice/advisory\_boards/Pages/CJABS.aspx](https://nam04.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https://www.pccd.pa.gov/criminaljustice/advisory_boards/Pages/CJABS.aspx&data=02|01|kabuckley@pa.gov|7ac312f6c87645ee99b208d7fc009b4f|418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde|0|0|637254954965127828&sdata=L13MyI69Siik7gAIP3NpPD9Q3eYvBAh4Q7PCkhdOfBI=&reserved=0)

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# Information and Resources Related To COVID 19

Below is Information and Resources related to how COVID 19 impacts services to victims of crime.

* Pennsylvania Department of Health: [Pennsylvania Coronavirus Updates](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Pages/RASA-VOCA-VOJO-Trainings.aspx?url=https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx&data=02|01|kabuckley@pa.gov|694cf676626848de5f9f08d7c9d1fad2|418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde|0|0|637199776716762436&sdata=28nnh6wjNgRBSWlDhsApjUiQD/ziHh3CxzmHzXDztyc=&reserved=0).  Information can also be found on their [Facebook](https://twitter.com/PaCrimeComm?url=https://u7061146.ct.sendgrid.net/ls/click?upn=4tNED-2FM8iDZJQyQ53jATUb8Hzhz9hTfMErRs-2Fni8h9iPhC1aY9BVhaOWCOMHTTu2h5NLOsx8HG3SenlmX9HAow-3D-3DRgXI_hdLF3rLJhzTRPT2w-2FGfeA8E2Ufo9uchaw2FUkqw0VAAtxwI3imaVW2pcEabk6UbHNkwk42E4T0jUmxuJYF34ZXhzaO495n5u6ycew-2FsobnMyRmOc49luwrw8qv73LNa8UwrpHlnyiNGdN1TC1n0iGre0SUmIStbQzy-2BjMk-2Fb0ZgshbBdSkMFf0BJujaYhj9f33DYFW2VP5R0xFlSS-2FpGZxl7L0Mm1eiZZMIqgyi-2F24gZGPS5vZbnMHa9AotF6gWhR25UXFvjVeHX8BEWwnFfviALVals8O7yUXW8d3a4X0wicdLgen-2F-2Bk8G72WuKIj7KuKquTvxDhyH3SVKE9UZVGA-3D-3D&data=02|01|kabuckley@pa.gov|694cf676626848de5f9f08d7c9d1fad2|418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde|0|0|637199776716762436&sdata=0o0rPae93gS3bCFTA2Pzk0QZs1lc66qJchjTh2uhw3g=&reserved=0) page and [Twitter](https://pccd.webex.com/mw3300/mywebex/default.do?url=https://u7061146.ct.sendgrid.net/ls/click?upn=4tNED-2FM8iDZJQyQ53jATUaQdhrH0jN5hsgJK-2BcC12hTUfg9GzNQM72tOTY4m8nddlqdZMm-2FxijNPa9rMG37uwa-2Br2LvStqlztiDDdeF-2FtADJwiG0kyJ5rHQuTvAhpQ9qToVY_hdLF3rLJhzTRPT2w-2FGfeA8E2Ufo9uchaw2FUkqw0VAAtxwI3imaVW2pcEabk6UbHNkwk42E4T0jUmxuJYF34ZXhzaO495n5u6ycew-2FsobnMyRmOc49luwrw8qv73LNa8UwrpHlnyiNGdN1TC1n0iGre0SUmIStbQzy-2BjMk-2Fb0ZgshbBdSkMFf0BJujaYhj9fvart2p1FcC23X-2Bocon9y3toG2i5NciviAn9yZARheij6PfJEAw45iG1ww8d07pHU-2Fz41-2FzceO8DXngcwd4sPGvNrlVyAJSI-2FCX2r-2BinvrlpibouKcV-2FJq3padVjgyCDn898n1kpdUgMg61PJ-2BXTkRw-3D-3D&data=02|01|kabuckley@pa.gov|694cf676626848de5f9f08d7c9d1fad2|418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde|0|0|637199776716772434&sdata=msyZfIw3iMWV/0xWo/2Vfh4v6rlPep+tV3cMG3vgb4A=&reserved=0) account.
* Please see PCCD’s COVID-19 information page for subrecipients at https://www.pccd.pa.gov/Funding/Pages/Subrecepients.aspx. As we continue to monitor the Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation and the uncertainty related to when everyone's normal business operations may resume, we will update this page with important information and guidance for our subrecipients.
* RAINN, here are new resources for “Sexual Violence Preparedness and Response During COVID-19”: [https://www.rainn.org/articles/sexual-violence-preparedness-and-response-during-covid-19](https://dvawareness.org/node/65?url=https://www.rainn.org/articles/sexual-violence-preparedness-and-response-during-covid-19&data=02|01|bcc@fireeyeatp.pa.gov|ae93af9b980648c2a96208d7eaea55b7|418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde|0|0|637236165963677755&sdata=Av57O5TloNRCDb8BZInpn+sH+dKse+3JlGqeHoWlLHU=&reserved=0)
* The National Coalition Against Domestic Violence regularly updates its resources relevant to COVID-19 and victim services at [http://www.ncadv.org/covid-19-and-domestic-violence](https://www.ciclt.net/sn/events/e_signup.aspx?url=http://www.ncadv.org/covid-19-and-domestic-violence&data=02|01|bcc@fireeyeatp.pa.gov|ae93af9b980648c2a96208d7eaea55b7|418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde|0|0|637236165963697670&sdata=eJkbkg5++YYYkk1IEWnF1fgI6CtFncyCNOHS3jrZrW4=&reserved=0)
* From the Asian Pacific Policy & Planning Council, here’s a report about coronavirus-related discrimination: [http://www.asianpacificpolicyandplanningcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/STOP\_AAPI\_HATE\_MONTHLY\_REPORT\_4\_23\_20.pdf](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/)
* Given the current COVID-19 crisis, outreach and education is taking place at a distance. The National Council on Aging tip sheetprovides an overview of some popular tools to reach out to and connect with your audience.
* NRCDV gathered select resources that can offer helpful guidance for domestic violence programs in preparing for and responding to the coronavirus pandemic. Click here to access the information: [Preventing & Managing the Spread of COVID-19 Within Domestic Violence Programs](https://pavictimservicestraining.org/)
* 19 Resources + Guidance for CACs: Chart our path with NCA's roadmap for Children's Advocacy Centers and communities on delivering critical services to children and families during the coronavirus outbreak. [https://learn.nationalchildrensalliance.org/covid](https://www.cspdailynews.com/technologyservices/rutters-partners-pennsylvania-coalition-against-domestic-violence)
* COVID-19 is creating new challenges for survivors with disabilities and their service providers. Visit our [Sustaining Services for Survivors with Disabilities During COVID-19](https://www.endabusepwd.org/covid-19/) page for more information and resources**.**
* [Free COVID-19 Language Access Response](http://www.pccd.pa.gov/Victim-Services/Pages/default.aspx)
* National Children’s Alliance Resource Page: [Coronavirus Resources for CACS, Partners, and Caregivers](https://secure.icohere.com/registration/register.cfm)
* The National Sexual Violence Resource Center provides some key resources and recommendations on COVID-19 as it relates to our work to end sexual harassment, abuse, and assault [https://www.nsvrc.org/blogs/resources-for-covid-19-response](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/)
* PCADV’s website provides useful information & resources for domestic violence programs, victims, and survivors: [https://www.pcadv.org/coronavirus-covid-19-resources/](https://pccd.webex.com/mw3300/mywebex/default.do)
* The World Health Organization released important guidelines with plenty of URL links to additional information about “mental health and psychosocial considerations during COVIC-19 outbreak” that are quite relevant to our work: [https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/mental-health-considerations.pdf?sfvrsn=6d3578af\_8](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.who.int%2Fdocs%2Fdefault-source%2Fcoronaviruse%2Fmental-health-considerations.pdf%3Fsfvrsn%3D6d3578af_8&data=02%7C01%7CKAbuckley%40pa.gov%7Cf65403a4f367484e40d808d7ca64c52e%7C418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde%7C0%7C0%7C637200407854779080&sdata=QkVlTCVGfopgiHSlCD8De3GKEERQ5wgHKxwNoHgHSGI%3D&reserved=0)
* The National Center for Victims of Crime has a Facebook online group for information and support: [Crime Victims Community in COVID-19](https://vawnet.org/news/preventing-managing-spread-covid-19-within-domestic-violence-programs)

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# PLAN 2020 VOCA Grantee Virtual Training Program Announcement

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic PLAN had to rethink how we could offer this training to those who need it, without it being an in-person training. We recognize that this is an important training for new VOCA Grantees.  PLAN is happy to announce that we have worked with PCCD to come up with a training plan that both organizations see as being innovative and a successful training plan for attendees.

We will be offering 12 one-hour webinars throughout a two to three-week time in June 2020.  We are still working on the training schedule and will get it out to you as soon as possible.  These one-hour webinars will be staggered to different times throughout the days so that attendees can avoid as many scheduling conflicts as possible.  Ten hours are the mandatory training and we are offering an extra two hours to fill in gaps when people may not be able to attend a session. We will be offering 12 CLE credits for these trainings as well.

It is important to note that our maximum capacity per training will be 100 people per session.  It is recommended that as soon as you receive the notification email of a training session, you should register for it immediately.

Stay tuned for the training schedule and further information!

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# ATTENTION VOJO PROGRAMS – VOJO LAPSING FUNDS – PLEASE DON’T FORGET TO USE YOUR VOJO FUNDING BY JUNE 30, 2020!

Recipients of 2019 VOJO (VJ) funds, denoted on your Award Letter as:

2019 VJ Award Amount      $ xx.xx

2019 VJ Project Period        7/1/2019 - 6/30/2020

This is a reminder that ***VOJO funds not expended or obligated from this funding source by June 30, 2020 will lapse****.*

Any outstanding obligations as of 6/30/2020 should be reported in the Outstanding Subgrantee Obligations column on the fiscal report for the period ending 6/30/2020.

An interim fiscal report will need to be submitted once the reported Outstanding Subgrantee Obligations are paid.  A remark must be included noting the reported expenditures were attributable to the period 7/1/2019-6/30/2020.

**It is the responsibility of the subgrantee to monitor these amounts**.

If you have any questions or need to request a copy of your Award Letter, **please contact the fiscal contact staff person listed on your VOJO grant**.

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# Interactive Guide To Safety Planning

**The National Domestic Violence Hotline’s** [loveisrespect](http://www.pccd.pa.gov) **project provides an online, interactive guide to safety planning for survivors.** A safety plan is a personalized, practical plan that can help survivors avoid dangerous situations and know the best way to react when they are in danger. Please click [here](http://www.pcv.pccd.pa.gov#gf_1) to learn more.

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# National Organization For Victim Assistance (NOVA): Here To Support You

The National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA) is committed to supporting the community in times of crisis. Like many of you, they are seeing the impact the COVID-19 pandemic is having across the globe and the stress it’s putting on members, partners and community. It’s a time of uncertainty and change for many. In addition to the living restrictions and disruptions to all our daily lives, they understand that the victim services field is going to face unique and complex challenges. They are here to support you in this difficult time and will continue to provide free resources and opportunities to connect and learn from each other in this difficult time.

The resources include:

* "Touch Base" Program: COVID-19 Support for the NOVA family
* NOVA Discussion Forums: Connect, Learn and Share
* FREE NOVA Virtual Gatherings
* NOVA Resources and Recorded Webinars
* Resources from Our Colleagues and Partners
* Relevant News Articles
* Useful Links for Staying Up to Date from FEMA

Please click [here](https://www.pccd.pa.gov/Funding/Pages/Subrecepients.aspx) to learn more.

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# COVID-19 Crisis Putting Human Trafficking Victims At Risk Of Further Exploitation, Experts Warn

New analysis from the agency shows that the crisis is having an impact on the lives of trafficking victims before, during and even after their ordeal.

“With COVID-19 restricting movement, diverting law enforcement resources, and reducing social and public services, human trafficking victims have even less chance of escape and finding help”, said Ghada Fathi Waly, the UNODC Executive Director.

As countries have closed their borders due to the pandemic, some victims are unable to return home. Others face delays in legal proceedings, as well as a reduction in the support and protection they rely on. Some are also in danger of further abuse or neglect by their captors.

“Human trafficking is the result of the failure of our societies and economies to protect the most vulnerable”, said Ilias Chatzis, chief of the UNODC section that works to combat this crime. “They should not be additionally ‘punished’ during times of crisis.”

Please click [here](https://verainstitute.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ghEjNcoCQDWRiAeaeDXl_Q) to read more.

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# Impact Of The COVID-19 Pandemic On Trafficking In Persons: Preliminary Findings And Messaging Based On Rapid Stocktaking

The COVID-19 pandemic is putting the world under enormous strain, affecting the lives of everyone. The unprecedented measures adopted to flatten the infection curve include enforced quarantine, curfews and lockdowns, travel restrictions, and limitations on economic activities and public life. While at first sight, these enforcement measures and increased police presence at the borders and on the streets seem to dissuade crime, they may also drive it further underground. In trafficking in persons, criminals are adjusting their business models to the ‘new normal’ created by the pandemic, especially through the abuse of modern communications technologies. At the same time, COVID-19 impacts the capacity of state authorities and non-governmental organizations to provide essential services to the victims of this crime. Most importantly, the pandemic has exacerbated and brought to the forefront the systemic and deeply entrenched economic and societal inequalities that are among the root causes of human trafficking. Please click [here](https://www.loveisrespect.org/for-yourself/safety-planning/interactive-safety-plan/) to read more.

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# Enduring The Unexpected: Student Sexual Assault Survivors In The Midst Of COVID-19

Packing up your bags for a week long break in Florida with your best friends is something that many college students look forward to during the spring. Having to suddenly pack up your bags in the middle of the semester to head home to live with your parents…not so much. Some students may not even have the time, resources or support to find a home to go to with such little notice. College students, along with many of us during COVID-19, have had to adjust to this new season. Students across the country have had to grieve what may look like a normal college semester; rushing across campus to avoid being late to class, meeting new people at student organizations, and choosing between endless meal options in the dining halls. Student-survivors of sexual assault have the added obstacle of managing all of these changes and also dealing with their sexual assault and Title IX cases away from campus. This season brings another layer of unique challenges for these students. Please click [here](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/) to read more.

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# The Worst Situation Imaginable For Family Violence

When lockdown and shelter-in-place protocols aimed at curbing the spread of COVID-19 went into effect earlier this spring, they put many Americans into circumstances they previously could only have imagined. While for many families the situation has meant isolation and monotony, for those who live with their abusers it has been a nightmare. Under coronavirus social-distancing protocols, the worst-case scenario for people who live with an abuser has more or less materialized. Social workers, lawyers, and advocates have had to rapidly adjust their services in order to get help to domestic- and child-abuse victims who are trapped inside with their abusers. Please click [here](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/) to read more.

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# $3.9 Million Awarded To Support Tree Of Life Shooting Victims, Survivors

Nearly $4 million will go toward victims and survivors of the 2018 mass shooting at the Tree of Life synagogue in Squirrel Hill, the U.S. Department of Justice announced Thursday. The money from the Office for Victims of Crime — just under $3.9 million — comes from a grant from the Antiterrorism and Emergency Assistance Program. Eleven worshippers across the three congregations were killed in the Oct. 27, 2018, attack on the Squirrel Hill synagogue. Two other congregants and five police officers were wounded in the shooting. The funds will go to Pennsylvania’s Office of Victims’ Services to finance a variety of support programs, including mental health counseling, trauma training for therapists, and counseling for first responders. Please click [here](https://celery-apple-e4zh.squarespace.com/free-covid-19-response) to read more.

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# Uber, Rutter’s Partner With Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence

Uber announced a partnership with the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence ([PCADV](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https://www.pcadv.org/&data=01|01|NEWS@fox43.com|c8bc1be39a9345508e0808d7f2ad452a|ccd8a79b7268413b878971f8b6f4c0df|0&sdata=DmLS32dQe6zZHLCzrV4EuFiNwmO6mbT08/pGPepzwFI=&reserved=0)) to provide additional support through transportation for survivors of domestic violence during the COVID-19 pandemic. Uber has donated 1,000 in free rides to PCADV who will distribute them among their member programs to provide to those seeking domestic violence services across the state. Access to these services is critical now more than ever before as domestic violence cases have increased as the Stay at Home order was put into place. Please click [here](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/) to read more.

With many people forced to stay home due to COVID-19, convenience stores are one of the few outlets where those facing domestic violence can get the information they need and seek help. That is why Rutter’s is partnering with the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV) to support the cause by promoting access to help on its in-store digital screens, digital screens at the pump and on social media. Messages on how those facing domestic violence can get help will be shown at all of Rutter’s 76 Pennsylvania convenience stores. Please click [here](http://www.asianpacificpolicyandplanningcouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/STOP_AAPI_HATE_MONTHLY_REPORT_4_23_20.pdf) to read more.

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# FUTURES On The Frontlines For Survivors, Families — And You

The FUTURES policy team in Washington D.C. helped secure direct support for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and for children who experience trauma and abuse, and for the nonprofit advocates who support them, including:

* $45 million in Family Violence Prevention and Services grants that prevent and respond to family and domestic violence, and
* $2 million for the National Domestic Violence Hotline
* $45 million in Child Welfare Services, for grants to states to support child welfare needs, and to help keep families together during this crisis
* $750 million for grants to all Head Start programs to help them support additional needs of children and families, including lost learning time during this crisis.

FUTURES also worked to ensure that local domestic violence and community-based agencies were made eligible for small business loans and grants to help address the economic impacts of the pandemic.

Please click [here](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/) to learn more.

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# Mothering & Advocacy During COVID-19: When Essential Worlds Collide In A Time Of Collective Trauma

Advocacy during COVID-19 is difficult, and essential. Many advocates are putting themselves at risk to support survivors’ safety at this time when the challenges and barriers seem insurmountable. NRCDV recognizes and values the important work of advocates – a role that has been largely invisible in the outpouring of appreciation for essential workers at this time, yet one that has a tremendous impact on the lives of people who are experiencing abuse within the context of our shelter-in-place reality. The [#Care4Advocates](https://www.nsvrc.org/blogs/resources-for-covid-19-response) campaign and resources seek to bring visibility to this critical work and support advocates’ well-being at this time. Please click [here](https://www.youtube.com/watch) to read more.

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# A Woman’s Place - Employment Opportunities

A Woman’s Place (AWP), a community-based social change organization serving victims of domestic violence, is seeking a part-time Resident Counseling Advocate and a full-time Bi-Lingual First Response Advocate.

The Resident Counseling Advocate works within AWP’s emergency safe house, assisting victims of domestic violence in achieving safety and self-sufficiency. AWP is currently hiring a 32 hour a week part-time position. Positions may include weekday, evening, and/or overnight shifts.

The Bi-Lingual First Response Advocate provides immediate crisis and safety counseling to victims of domestic violence when contacted by local police departments and provides court accompaniment through the criminal justice system with a focus on the Spanish speaking population. AWP is hiring 1 full-time position requiring schedule flexibility to assist in providing 24/7 response. Must be fluent in Spanish.

For full job descriptions and application process please visit our website: [https://awomansplace.org/get-involved/](https://www.theatlantic.com/family/archive/2020/05/challenge-helping-abuse-victims-during-quarantine/611272/?url=https://awomansplace.org/get-involved/&data=02|01|sbrendling@pa.gov|05605b711196466a36e808d7e6103c13|418e284101284dd59b6c47fc5a9a1bde|0|0|637230829715543440&sdata=crkTLivE1w+z/affAbsTKBDUZRftplAHRgjpzYrABJ0=&reserved=0)

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# Network of Victim Assistance - Employment Opportunity

Network of Victim Assistance (NOVA), a nonprofit organization in Bucks County, PA serving victims of sexual assault and other crimes, seeks a part-time (27 hours per week) **HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE ORGANIZER** to join its team. The role of the Task Force Organizer is to serve as a primary point of contact for the Bucks Coalition Against Trafficking (BCAT) task force leadership and membership. The goal of the position is to facilitate and coordinate community organization and action around human trafficking.  Responsibilities include management of administrative and operational activities of the task force including monitoring of and overall responsibility for the workplan goals established by the task force Advisory Committee.

Social work, human services or related master’s degree preferred (Bachelor’s degree with relevant experience will be considered). The ideal candidate will have experience with community organization/community engagement, public speaking and training experience, and a flexible schedule to fulfill training requests and attend meetings.

Competitive salary and excellent benefits. Applicants must send a cover letter with salary requirements in addition to their resume to [DebGH@novabucks.org](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1427716924075500/). AA/EOE.

**NOVA is currently working remotely during the COVID-19 pandemic.  Although the physical interview process is on hold, they are still reviewing all the applicants as they come in.  They will be conducting in-person interviews as soon as possible.**

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# National Census Of Victim Service Providers: Making The Most Of Data

The recording from CVR’s webinar, "National Census of Victim Service Providers: Making the Most of Data" is now available and posted to the webinar page on the Center for Victim Research Website. Please click [here](https://e.givesmart.com/events/e1u/) for more information.

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# Webinar: Two-Generation/Whole Family Approaches In Anti-Trafficking Programming

The National Human Trafficking Training and Technical Assistance Center hosted a 90-minute webinar that discusses two-generation and whole family approaches, emerging trends, case studies, and best practices for providing supportive and comprehensive services for individuals who have experienced trafficking and their families. Please click [here](https://reliefweb.int/report/world/impact-covid-19-pandemic-trafficking-persons-preliminary-findings-and-messaging-based) to learn more.

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# Webinar: Tele-counseling 101: Providing Services For Survivors

During this unprecedented time, many of us find ourselves asking “How do we provide counseling services for survivors during a pandemic?” This webinar will explain how to effectively, and confidentially, provide tele-counseling services for survivors of sexual violence. In 2017 the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape (PCAR) piloted a 12-month project using tele-counseling services at five victim service agencies. This webinar will provide an overview of best practices and lessons learned from that pilot project, including hearing from counselors who still utilize telecounseling with clients.

Please click [here](https://www.pcadv.org/coronavirus-covid-19-resources/?v=AuZkXXu0opw) to learn more.

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# Webinar: ****Alcohol Facilitated Sexual Assault Part Two****

Part Two: Wednesday, May 20th 2:00 – 3:30 PM EDT

Alcohol is the most common weapon used to facilitate sexual assault.  Offenders use alcohol because it renders victims vulnerable, affects memory, and impairs judgment and physical ability. Its unique toxicological effects, widespread use, and ease of consumption make it ideal for offenders who commit sexual assaults. Of course, some of the same factors that make alcohol such a perfect weapon also present unique challenges for investigators, prosecutors, and other allied professionals in alcohol-facilitated sexual assault (AFSA) cases.

This two-part presentation will explore common issues and challenges related to the investigation and prosecution of sexual assault cases where alcohol is present. More specifically, it will focus on identifying corroborating evidence, interviewing victims, basic toxicology, the effect of societal attitudes about alcohol on determinations of victim credibility, and trial strategies. In addition, this presentation will promote a victim-centered response that incorporates offender-focused strategies for an effective trauma-informed investigation and prosecution. Throughout the discussion, the presenters will discuss how strategies may be implicated and altered by social distancing measures currently in place in response to COVID-19.

Please click [here](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?e=c1b8f46948) to register.

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# Web Panel Discussion: Using Virtual Meeting Software For Interviews With Victims

Tuesday, May 26th, 2020

1:00 p.m. ET

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, law enforcement officers are using innovative tactics to connect with victims for investigations and to ensure they receive the support they need. One tool some agencies are using is virtual meeting software; they’re interviewing victims and including victim advocates in that process just like they would with a traditional interview. In this panel presentation and discussion, investigators and a forensic nurse utilizing virtual software to interview victims, witnesses, and suspects, will discuss the advantages and challenges. They will provide tips and talk about pitfalls to avoid.

Please click [here](https://www.trynova.org/news-updates/?webinarid=1100) for more information and to register.

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# Language Access: The Lessons That COVID-19 Has Reinforced

Tuesday, May 26th, 2020

2:00 – 3:30 p.m. ET

The current COVID-19 crisis is not over yet; however, in a short time we have seen how gaps in the system for language access are exacerbated by a pandemic. Did we know what to do in a crisis? Were we prepared to ensure that everyone had access to information and services in their first language? What do we do during an emergency or a disaster? How does our language access plan monitoring help us achieve a more organized response? What went wrong, and how can we be sure that we do not make those mistakes again? Through this virtual training we will share lessons learned and answer these and other questions regarding language access preparedness, responsiveness and monitoring.

Objectives:
• Understand the implications and impact of the COVID-19 crisis on Limited English Proficient communities and survivors;
• Learn about language access compliance and monitoring and how they can be our guide for language access emergency preparedness; and
• Create a framework under which programs can create policies and protocols that facilitate access during a crisis.

Please click [here](https://learn.nationalchildrensalliance.org/covid) for more information and to register.

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# National Strategy Sessions On Sustaining Services During The COVID-19 Pandemic

How do we stay connected with survivors and continue to provide support, especially to those with the fewest resources and greatest needs, while keeping our programs, staff, and communities healthy?

The National Resource Center for Reaching Victims is hosting a series of strategy sessions to bring people in the crime victims field together to tap into our collective strength and creativity to solve the unprecedented challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic together. Each strategy session features a different set of panelists. Panelists discuss the impact COVID-19 is having on crime survivors and their access to victim services, police, courts, hospitals, and other vital systems of support. They also answer attendees’ most pressing questions.

Please click [here](https://d2mkcg26uvg1cz.cloudfront.net/wp-content/uploads/Tools-for-Reaching-a-Remote-Audience.pdf) to learn more.

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# Victims Compensation Online Trainings

The following trainings will be held on May 26, 2020.

* Motor Vehicle-Related Crime Expenses Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Medical Expenses Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on June 3, 2020.

* “Wow, That’s Covered by Compensation”– 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Myths of Compensation – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following training will be held on June 11, 2020.

* Medical Expenses Clinic – 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Crime Scene Cleanup Expenses Clinic – 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on June 17, 2020.

* Funeral & Burial Expenses Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Loss of Earnings Clinic - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on June 23, 2020.

* Stolen Benefit Cash Expenses Clinic - 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
* Medical Expenses Clinic - 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

The following trainings will be held on July 1, 2020.

* Basic Compensation - 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

All trainings count towards 1 hour of the required RASA/VOCA/VOJO training hours, except Basic Compensation, which counts towards 2 hours, and DAVE training, which counts towards 2 hours and 15 minutes.

Please click here to register.

A recording of the Sexual Assault Counseling Claims Legislative Change WebEx is available [here](https://gcc01.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?siteurl=pccd&service=6). This training can be accessed at any time for viewing.

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# Pennsylvania Victim Services Training (PVST) Online Learning Management System

PCCD’s Office of Victims’ Services (OVS) offers its Pennsylvania Victim Services Training (PVST) Online Learning Management System to fill a need for easily accessible, high-quality, free training for victim advocates at PCCD-funded programs. PVST courses count for PCCD training hours and courses can be taken as the learner’s schedule permits. The PVST also keeps a record of a user’s course completion and credit hours earned.  The courses on the PVST are designed to complement, reinforce and enhance the PCCD Foundational Academy and the online offerings on the learning management systems operated by PCADV, PCAR and the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association.

The PVST is resource center for PCCD funded programs and allied professionals whose work brings them into contact with crime victim populations to receive free, quality, and easily accessible training. The training is Pennsylvania-specific, web based, and can be taken on the student’s own timeframe. There are currently 28 approved programs, totaling 54 hours of training, on the PVST.

**As the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact the lives of Pennsylvanians, we are aware that domestic violence is still occurring. Due to the effects of COVID-19, many victims may be forced to spend more time in close proximity with their abusers due to having to remain at home, work from home, or quarantine. This increases the risk to their safety and well-being during an already stressful time. The loss of work and income from this public health crisis can mean the difference between safety and independence and life with an abuser.**

**The Domestic Violence and the Family Training Module was developed in September 2018. This training provides information on applicable family law matters, communication techniques that will increase your ability to effectively communicate with victims and families, and concrete direction on what information direct service workers can and cannot provide to victims. This training is a valuable resource to victim service providers new to the field as well a refresher for those with experience. This course counts for two (2) continuing education credits.**

To access the PVST, please click [here](https://www.fox43.com/article/news/uber-domestic-violence-free-rides/521-4c0d2989-c12a-428a-88c4-57ca57669a2b).  The registration code is **7223**.

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# Webinar: Chronic Diseases, Health Conditions, And Other Impacts Associated With Rape Victimization Of U.S. Women

Wednesday, May 20th, 2020

2:00 p.m. ET

Sexual violence (SV) is an urgent public health issue that is common and has lifelong effects on health. While previous studies documented the link between SV victimization and numerous health conditions, much of that research focused on outcomes from child sexual abuse and used non-nationally representative samples.

Kathleen C. Basile, Ph.D., a Senior Scientist in the Division of Violence Prevention at The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and discussant from NSVRC will review findings from a recent study using a nationally representative sample of females to examine health outcomes and impacts associated with any lifetime experience of rape. The study included a separate examination of injury and health outcomes (including fear) resulting from any violence by a perpetrator of rape. The webinar will include information about the rate of reported physical injury, rate of infection from a sexually transmitted disease, and the overall rate of impact as a result of violence by a rape perpetrator. It will also address the adjusted odds that rape victims will experience asthma, irritable bowel syndrome, frequent headaches, chronic pain, difficulty sleeping, activity limitations, poor physical or mental health, and use of special equipment (e.g., wheelchair)—compared to non-victims. Presenters will discuss the implications of these findings for prevention and response.

To learn more and to register, please click here.

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# Topical Training Announcement: Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

In the state of Pennsylvania over 80,000 children are being raised by their grandparents, many due to the opioid crisis. In recent years legislation has been passed, pilot programs developed, and hotlines created to assist grandparents in taking on this overwhelming task. If you are interested in learning more about this topic and tools to help you when working with victims who are in this situation, register for this important training.

Monday, August 10, 2020

9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The Graduate Hotel

125 South Atherton Street

State College, PA 16801

**Registration closes on July 24, 2020**. This course is open to all victim service providers, including attorneys. Class size is limited to 40 attendees.

Please click [here](https://www.futureswithoutviolence.org/get-updates-information-covid-19/?ClientCode=pdaa&E_ID=500203&RegType=ATT) to learn more and to register.

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# SAVE THE DATE: 2020 KCIT Conference: Conscious Resilience After Trauma

“Keystone Crisis Intervention Team is excited to share the date for our 2nd statewide conference, September 22-23, 2020.  The theme of our Conference this year is Conscious Resilience After Trauma.  KCIT’s focus on building Conscious Resilience is an acknowledgement of the impact and emotional toll that trauma has on our clients, organizations, communities, but more specifically—you—the helper.”

The Conference will be held on September 22-23, 2020 in York, PA at Heritage Hills Resort.

For Questions: please contact Donna Welsh at [donna.welsh@novabucks.org](https://triblive.com/local/pittsburgh-allegheny/3-million-awarded-to-support-tree-of-life-shooting-victims-survivors/)

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# SAVE THE DATE: Network Of Victim Assistance Auction & Gala

Thursday, October 15, 2020

5:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Warrington Country Club

1360 Almshouse Road

Warrington, PA 18976

This year's theme, An Evening in the Roaring 20's, will take guests back 100 years to the 1920's and will feature 20's themed food stations, dancing, drinks, entertainment and live and silent auctions. Auction items include a private dinner party at Bocelli's Italian Restaurant, a spring yard clean-up package, a garden tea party for 8, dining experiences, adventures and getaways, artwork, jewelry, museum, theater and sports tickets and much more! New auction items are added weekly. Event proceeds benefit NOVA’s work in both helping victims of crime and preventing violence through education and advocacy programs.

Tickets for the Auction & Gala are $85.00 per person. The dress code for the event is business casual or 1920's themed attire. To purchase tickets, make a donation, or receive more information, please click [here](https://www.loveisrespect.org/), or contact Jill Mann at 215-343-6543 ext. 6602. Those who are unable to attend the gala can still get in on the auction fun and bid on items online via www.NOVA.givesmart.com, by clicking on "Register to Participate" and following the prompts.

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If your program is offering new or extended services, or implementing new initiatives that you would like to highlight, please submit your news article to Stacie Brendlinger at [sbrendling@pa.gov](https://vawnet.org/material/care4advocates-covid-19-resources-support-advocates-well-being).

The next OVS Newsletter will be published on Wednesday, **June 3, 2020**. If you would like any training events, fundraisers, or notable news published in this newsletter, please submit them to Stacie Brendlinger at [sbrendling@pa.gov](https://www.nvrdc.org/blog/2020/4/30/enduring-the-unexpected-student-sexual-assault-survivors-in-the-midst-of-covid-19) by Wednesday, **May 27, 2020**.

You have signed up to receive the OVS Newsletter from the Office of Victims' Services. This newsletter will be sent to you on a biweekly basis via email. If your email address changes or you would like to be removed from the OVS Newsletter distribution list, please contact Stacie Brendlinger at (717) 265-8722 or via email at [sbrendling@pa.gov](https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/05/1063342).

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Pennsylvania’s [Office of Victims’ Services](https://nhttac.acf.hhs.gov/resources/webinar-two-generationwhole-family-approaches-anti-trafficking-programming) | 3101 North Front Street | Harrisburg, PA 17110 | (717) 783-0551

[www.pccd.pa.gov](https://learn.nationalchildrensalliance.org/covid)

**PA Crime Victims Website**

[www.pcv.pccd.pa.gov](https://mailchi.mp/aequitasresource.org/what-do-you-think-of-our-new-look-share-your-feedback-4446604)

**Twitter:** @PaCrimeComm.