



Victims' Services Programs Quarterly Update

Issue 4: Fall 2019

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Victims' Services News

Victims' Services Travel to 2019 VOCA National Training Conference



Laura Quasney, Brittany Elderts-Ajala and Cora Olson in San Diego, CA for VOCA National Training Conference

In August, Program Manager Cora Olson; Program Specialist Laura Quasney and CVC-Investigator Brittany Elderts-Ajala traveled to San Diego, California to attend the VOCA National Training Conference for VOCA Assistance and VOCA Crime Victims Compensation managers and staff. This was the largest conference attendance in VOCA's history with attendees from all 50 states and territories in attendance. South Dakota staff attended some of the following sessions in the four-day training:

- Hot Topics in Victim Compensation: A guided Roundtable Discussion
- Partnering with Hospitals to Reach More Victims: Advancing the Use of

- Hospital-Based Victim Services
- Victims' Rights, Services, and Responses: How Law Enforcement Can Effectively Meet the Needs of Crime Victims
- This is How We Do It: Compensation Programs at Work
- Maximizing VOCA Resources: Assistance + Compensation = Better Help for Victims
- Family Justice Centers and The Alliance for Hope
- Rape Exams: Core Costs and Procedures; HIV nPep Coverage
- How to Use Criminal Justice Reform to Advance Systemic Needs of Victims
- Police Investigations: Crucial Components in Compensating Victims
- Law Enforcement and Community: Building Partnership

and Capacity to Address Healing in the Wake of Harm

The last session covered five law enforcement demonstration sites funded by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) in 2018, through support from the Office for Victims of Crime, to develop preventative and reparative victim-centered responses in the wake of harm.

This session addressed the demonstration sites and why they were chosen and the barriers law enforcement face. One of the sites chosen for funding was Rapid City Police Department.

This session gave Cora and Laura a chance to connect with IACP staff who have been working with Rapid City Police Department (RCPD) for the last few years and are working to develop a Family Justice Center. It is estimated about a quarter of the states in the country do not have an operational Family Justice Center and South Dakota is one of them.

Through the collaborations and networking of service providers, this is an opportunity for SD. This is a chance for communities to take collaboration to the next level by bringing together government and non-governmental service providers into one centralized location, providing multiple services for survivors.



South Dakota Victims' Services Needs Assessment

In July 2019, Victims' Services began discussions of completing a statewide needs assessment. This would entail working with a vendor to conduct a needs assessment of victim service providers and crime victims across the state of South Dakota. The initial project would be to conduct a survey with feedback on the awareness, perceptions, utilization and satisfaction of Victims' Services Program of stakeholders, service providers and victims. More specifically, the project will survey on:

- Types of Service Delivery,
- Funding for Victim Service Programs,
- Training and Technical Assistance,
- Outreach and Awareness,
- Challenges and Barriers to Service Delivery,
- Crime Victims' Service Delivery Needs,
- Service Coordination Activities,
- Collaboration,
- Cultural Competencies,
- Strengths of Service Organizations, and
- Service Provider Recommendations.

After this initial project is completed, the final

project will result in an online survey instrument to be utilized with service providers and stakeholders, a survey for victims, the development of a focus group protocol and completion of up to 10 focus groups with victims, and a comprehensive report detailing and analyzing the results.



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Government Research Bureau

Victims' Services has chosen the vendor of Government Research Bureau (GRB) out of the University of South Dakota. Victims' Services recently compiled the initial list of stakeholders and service providers to be surveyed and provided this list to GRB. Please note, in the near future you will be receiving

communications from GRB about participating in this survey. We highly recommend you participate as this will give us a great deal of information of how we can improve victims services being provided in South Dakota.

Once the needs assessment has been completed, Victims' Services will review the report and this will transition into developing a statewide Strategic Plan. More information will be coming as this develops.

“If you are working on something exciting that you really care about, you don’t have to be pushed. The vision pulls you.”
- Steve Jobs

MAVIS Grant Management System News

Quarterly Performance Reporting is just around the corner. One of the most anticipated releases for the next phase of the MAVIS system is almost ready for production. Through the years, Quarterly Reporting has not been a time-efficient process and the old ADAP had flaws in what information it was able to capture.

Victims' Services has been working diligently to update this with the release of the ADAP Victim Tracking Tool (AVTT) in MAVIS. This updated client management section allowed for increased categories and demographics to be tracked which will assist with gathering more data to the clients who are being served and identifying where gaps in services may lie.

Quarterly Reporting is in the final testing phases with the program vendor prior to implementing into the site for use. It is anticipated, this will be ready for production and use in October 2019. We are

excited for the release of this component of our new system and hope you are as well. There will be training and discussion on this for how reporting should be completed in the very near future.

Once the Quarterly Reporting is implemented, the next phase of the MAVIS system is to shift focus to designing and creating an online Crime Victim Compensation Application. The hope is to increase awareness and knowledge of programs that are available to victims and create an easier way to access these programs.

One of our focuses is to create a system that is victim-centered and we can obtain the most basic information necessary to initiate an application and begin the process without causing further traumatization to the victim. One way we are looking at doing this is by having what we refer to as the “10%” and “90%” of the application.

The “10%” would have the victims'

information and information about the crime and releases so Victims' Services can begin obtaining outside information such as police reports. The “90%” would then include the types of expenses the victim would be requesting reimbursement for and providing service provider information and bills.

There is still a lot of work that will need to occur to go live with the CVC online application but our goal is for this to be available by Spring 2020. Until this is available, updated applications can be found at the links below.

<https://dps.sd.gov/application/files/1115/6659/7253/primary-cvc2019.pdf>

<https://dps.sd.gov/application/files/4015/6823/9415/primary-application-instructions.pdf>

<https://dps.sd.gov/application/files/7715/6823/6414/2ndary-cvc2019.pdf>

<https://dps.sd.gov/application/files/9515/6823/9413/secondary-application-instructions.pdf>

Upcoming Trainings

Sept. 25-26 (Chamberlain, SD)

SD-DPS Victims' Services Symposium in Partnership with the SD Network Against Family Violence & Sexual Assault

It is strongly recommended for all subrecipients of DPS Victims' Services grants to attend including the Executive Director and a Board Member.

Oct. 15-17 (Huntsville, AL)

Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Training

This is designed for clinicians who currently provide therapy services to children aged 3-18 at a CAC. This training is not designed for interns or administrative staff who assist or supervise clinicians.

<http://www.srcac.org/tf-cbt/>

Nov. 12-13 (Dallas, TX)

National Criminal Justice Training Center

Explore how different types of evidence can be used in forensic interviews of children in abuse, witnessing violence and exploitation cases.

<https://ncjtc.fvtc.edu/training/details/TR00008591/TRI0009224/presenting-evidence-in-child-forensic-interviews>

Dec. 4-6 (Denver, CO)

National Center for Victims of Crime

The National Training Institute is geared towards victim service professionals, advocates, law enforcement, other allied professionals, and those seeking D-SAACP continuing education hours for DoD's SARCs and SAPR Vas and Continuing Education Credits.

<https://nti.secure-platform.com/a/organizations/main/home>

March 18-19 (Miami, FL)

Freedom Network USA Human Trafficking Conference 2020

This year will explore how anti-trafficking work has grown and evolved since the passage of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act in 2000.

<https://freedomnetworkusa.org/conference/>

March 23-26 (Huntsville, AL)

36th Annual International Symposium on Child Abuse

A premiere conference that provides expert training and numerous networking opportunities to professionals in the child maltreatment field, and is one of the few conferences that addresses all aspects of child maltreatment, including but not limited to: physical abuse, sexual abuse, neglect, exposure to violence, poly-victimization, exploitation, intervention, trafficking, and prevention.

<https://symposium.nationalcac.org/>

**“People who are crazy enough to think they can change the world, are the ones who do.”
- Rob Siltanen**

Did You Know...

- One in five women and one in 71 men will be raped at some point in their lives.
- 51.1% of female victims of rape reported being raped by an intimate partner and 40.8% by an acquaintance.
- 52.4% of male victims report being raped by an acquaintance and 15.1% by a stranger.
- Almost half (49.5%) of multiracial women and over 45% of American Indian/Alaska Native women were subjected to some form of contact sexual violence in their lifetime.
- The lifetime cost of rape per victim is \$122,461

The above statistics are from National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC) [nsvrc.org/node/4737](https://www.nsvrc.org/node/4737)

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC SAFETY
VICTIMS' SERVICES
PROGRAMS

118 West Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501

Phone: (605) 773-6317

Fax: (605) 773-2955

E-mail: VictimsServices@state.sd.us

<https://dps.sd.gov/victims-services>

While there are numerous changes within the program at the moment, we are extremely excited for what the future holds and it would not be possible without the help of all of our advocates, law enforcement, prosecutors, service providers and **YOU!**

If you have any questions or concerns, please let us know.

Cora Olson, Program Director

(605)773-3109

Cora.Olson@state.sd.us

Laura Quasney, Program Specialist

(605)773-4317

Laura.Quasney@state.sd.us

Angel Aasby, Program Assistant

(605)773-5884

Angel.Aasby@state.sd.us

Brittany Elderts-Ajala, CVC Investigator

(605)773-6318

Brittany.Elderts-Ajala@state.sd.us

Heather Anderson, CVC Investigator

(607)773-2609

HeatherD.Anderson@state.sd.us

More Information

We also want to include the amazing things **YOU** are doing! If your program has events you would like to share, great things employees are doing, etc. we would love to hear it. Or if you would like to brag on something another program is doing, even better. This would be fantastic to spotlight the great things that are being done to assist victims across the state.



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