



RESHAPING THE FUTURE **HONORING THE PAST**

CAP TIPS is a series of periodic messages to assist in the planning and implementation of NCVRW Community Awareness Projects. Please feel free to send your individual questions or requests for assistance to Anne Seymour at annesey@atlantech.net.

CAP TIPS #6

To Improve Public Awareness

Victim Assistance-, Criminal and Juvenile Justice-related Web Sites

Introduction

There are countless Federal agencies, national and state organizations and coalitions, and other entities that provide excellent information about crime victims' rights and services, justice-related partnerships, research, training curricula, public outreach strategies, and "promising practices" that improve the treatment of crime victims and survivors.

Attached to this CAP TIP is a comprehensive listing of these entities, including, for easy access, the Web URL for myriad resources that can enhance 2011 National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW) activities, as well as your victim assistance and public awareness activities throughout the year.

Online Resources

- **Federal Agencies/Resources** include key agencies that have some role in victim assistance, with many data from government-funded studies relevant to crime and victimization available.
- **National Victim-related Organizations** collectively address virtually every type of crime and victimization (including non-violent crime and resources about non-reporting victims), and many have significant online libraries.
- **National Associations: Criminal and Juvenile Justice and Public Policy-related Associations** include important allied partners in crime prevention, victim assistance, and public safety.
- **State Crime Victim Compensation Programs** list all victim compensation programs in the U.S., including states, Territories and the District of Columbia (all CAP programs should be sure to engage your victim compensation program staff in your NCVRW activities).
- **State VOCA Victim Assistance Agencies** offer links to VOCA Administrators (please remember in our Webinar, we encouraged all CAP recipients to get in touch with their VOCA Administrator!).
- **State Attorneys General Victim Assistance Programs** include a listing of such programs in nearly all states, many of which have full-service victim assistance services, and others that focus on specific issues (such as criminal appeals, fraud, elder abuse, etc.).

- **State Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Coalitions** link you to state-level coalitions, many of which will be highly involved in 2011 NCVRW activities. These can be important partners in your 2011 NCVRW activities and can link you to other victim assistance programs, “promising practices” within your state, and other excellent resources.
- **Federal and State Corrections (Adult)** offer links to corrections-based victim assistance programs in the Federal Bureau of Prisons and all 50 states – important potential partners for your 2011 NCVRW efforts!
- **State Corrections (Juvenile)** links you to juvenile corrections authorities, some of which sponsor victim assistance programs.
- **Victims’ Rights Compliance and Enforcement Programs** include agencies, coalitions and legal clinics that help victims enforce their constitutional and statutory rights.
- **Legal Research/Resources** includes online resources where you can find specific laws and statutes, court decisions, etc.
- **Media Resources** include websites that focus on the impact of the news media on crime, and on crime victims and survivors.

Tips to Make the Best Use of These Websites

Here are some ideas about how this extensive Web roster can enhance your 2011 NCVRW activities:

- For each state-specific agency, organization or coalition, you can visit its website and let staff know about (and invite them to) your NCVRW activities. Some websites list their “member” victim assistance programs, so you can identify programs within your jurisdiction (by zip code) that you may not know and also engage them in your NCVRW activities. Also, many of these entities document “promising practices,” statistics and other resources that are *state-specific*.
- Many of these websites feature extensive online libraries that cover a wide range of topics and issues related to the needs and rights of crime victims. Once your NCVRW Planning Committee finalizes its priorities and strategies for 2011 NCVRW, you can visit websites that are relevant to your target issues and/or audiences to identify helpful information.
- If your organization or agency features URL links to “other victim assistance resources” on your website, this roster can simplify the process of updating or creating URL links in the categories identified above.
- And of course, you can “save” this roster and share it with your staff, volunteers and allied professionals to promote easy access to a literal “treasure trove” of online resources that can help improve crime victims’ rights and services!

For More Information

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