



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](mailto:annesey@atlantech.net)

## **CAP TIP #13**

### ***To Improve Public Awareness***

#### **Engaging Crime Victims and Survivors In NCVRW Activities**

##### **Introduction**

One of the requirements of the Community Awareness Project is the active involvement of crime victims and survivors in activities and special events sponsored during NCVRW. With the 2017 theme – “Strength. Resilience. Justice” – being very victim-centric, and the input of victims and survivors being essential to success, *all* NCVRW activities that involve crime survivors tend to be very personal, powerful and highly successful.

This CAP TIP features strategies to engage crime victims and survivors from previous CAP TIPs, along with creative ideas from 2017 CAP subgrantees that can be considered for replication in all CAP communities.

##### **Previous CAP TIPs**

A CAP TIP from 2010 and two resources from this year can help you successfully engage victims and survivors in your 2017 NCVRW events:

- 2010 CAP TIP #4, “How to Engage Victims and Survivors in Your NCVRW Activities”  
[http://navaa.org/cap/captips/10%20CAPTIPS%204\\_Engaging\\_Victims\\_and\\_Survivors.pdf](http://navaa.org/cap/captips/10%20CAPTIPS%204_Engaging_Victims_and_Survivors.pdf)
- 2017 CAP TIP #3, “Tips to Promote the 2017 NCVRW Theme,” featured a one-page “work sheet to obtain input” about the NCVRW theme (this is included at the end of this CAP TIP, as it can be used with crime victims and survivors)
- “Champion of Victims’ Rights” Award (2017 CAP TIP #7) featured strategies and awards certificates to recognize “champions of victims’ rights,” including crime victims and survivors

##### **Creative Ideas from 2017 CAP Subgrantees**

Some of the finest suggestions to actively engage and recognize crime victims and survivors during 2017 NCVRW emanate from **YOU** – the 2017 CAP subgrantees!

In addition to memory books, slide shows and remembrance boards, below are eight ideas to engage and honor crime victims that are being sponsored by 2017 CAP subgrantees, with websites that offer additional tips and guidance for each activity:

### **Candlelight Vigils**

Planning a Candlelight Vigil: <http://eventservices.berkeley.edu/docs/candlelight-vigil.pdf>

Poem, "Light a Candle:" <http://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poem/light-a-candle>

### **Clothesline Project**

<http://www.clotheslineproject.org/>

### **An Empty Place/Chair at the Table**

<http://www.caepv.org/membercenter/files/emptyplace.pdf>

The Empty Chair at the Table Poem: [http://poetrypoem.com/cgi-](http://poetrypoem.com/cgi-bin/index.pl?poemnumber=615150&sitename=kittysjourney&poemoffset=0&displaypoem=t&item=poetry)

[bin/index.pl?poemnumber=615150&sitename=kittysjourney&poemoffset=0&displaypoem=t&item=poetry](http://poetrypoem.com/cgi-bin/index.pl?poemnumber=615150&sitename=kittysjourney&poemoffset=0&displaypoem=t&item=poetry)

### **Silent Witness Initiative**

<http://www.silentwitness.net/>

### **Super Hero Walk (examples)**

Baltimore Child Abuse Center: <http://www.bcaci.org/super-hero-walk/>

Denver, CO Roundup Fellowship (pets welcome!): <http://www.rup.org/be-a-superhero-2/>

Bannon Health Center (AZ) Adventure Run: <https://www.gilbertaz.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/special-events/ka-pow-superhero-run>

### **Walk a Mile in Her Shoes**

<http://www.walkamileinhershoes.org/>

### **Resource Fair Guidelines:**

2016 Office of Justice Programs Guidelines:

<https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/ojp/.../2016%20Resource%20Fair%20Guidelines.docx>

Resource Fair Sample Contract:

<http://pro.mst.edu/media/enrollmentmanagement/pro/documents/For%20Web.pdf>

### **Wreath Laying Ceremony**

[http://www.ehow.com/how\\_8737629\\_instruction-wreath-laying-ceremony.html](http://www.ehow.com/how_8737629_instruction-wreath-laying-ceremony.html)

In addition, specific activities that engage and recognize crime victims and survivors are being sponsored this year in five general categories:

1. Victim/survivor recognition
2. Outreach to under-served victims and survivors
3. Public awareness
4. Arts and awareness activities
5. Victim/survivor education

It may be very helpful to quickly review these wonderful ideas that engage and honor crime victims and survivors, as most of them can be easily replicated in any CAP initiative.

The following matrices feature brief descriptions of 2017 CAP subgrantees and the activities they are sponsoring in each of the above categories:

<b>VICTIM/SURVIVOR RECOGNITION</b>	
Mobile Police Department, Mobile, AL	In its NCVRW 5K run/walk, participants will run/walk for a specific survivor and will have the name and portrait of that individual on their race bib. A “Celebration of Life” event will be held the evening before the race where victims and survivors can share with stories on a celebration wall and provide testimonials for the audience.
One Place Metro Alabama Family Justice Center, Birmingham, AL	At its NCVRW Recognition Ceremony at which 250 participants are expected, representatives from each participating agency will serve as table hosts for victims/survivors who will be invited as special guests to be recognized.
Victims for Justice, Anchorage, AL	At its NCVRW Tree Ceremony, large multi-colored ribbons will represent different types of crime victimization; and smaller ribbons will be available for victim/survivors and members of the general public to hang on the tree.
Monterey County DA’s Office, Victim Assistance Unit, Salinas, CA	Its 17 <sup>th</sup> Annual Victims’ Dedication Ceremony is being planned by a Committee that includes victims and survivors, and will feature a slide show honoring homicide victims and a release of doves to honor victims.
Newark Anti-Violence Coalition, Newark, NJ	Ten local organizations will co-sponsor numerous NCVRW events, including a “Surrender Saturday” community walk for survivors with testimonials, and memorial plants given to each family.
Family Refuge Center, Lewisburg WV	Among four events planned for NCVRW is a Beacon of Hope Award Ceremony to honor eight champions of victims’ rights, including crime survivors.

<b>OUTREACH TO UNDER-SERVED VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS</b>	
Crime Victim Assistance Association of Arkansas, Little Rock, AR	Its Candlelight Vigil will focus on often underserved victims, such as victims with disabilities, the elderly, hearing-impaired, and LGBTQ victims.
Butte County District Attorney Victim Assistance Bureau, Oroville, CA	A four -week campaign to promote victims’ rights and services beginning on March 15 will feature advertisements in bus shelters and newspapers that focus on rural and transient populations in the community.
DC Center for the LGBT Community, Washington, DC	The Center is planning three connected events – a Community Group Art Therapy night; a March, and a Community Program with the adapted NCVRW theme, “Strength, Resilience and Justice for All: Silent Champions Living Out Loud!”
Crime Victim Assistance Division, Iowa Attorney General’s Office, IA	The Division is sponsoring an outreach effort that targets marginalized communities of color and refugee communities, with business cards in eight different languages that feature NCVRW information on one side, and the Division’s contact information on the other side. The cards will be distributed statewide by culturally-specific victim services programs.
Family Crisis Centers, Sioux Center, IA	The Centers will partner with a gas station chain to display information about six different types of victimization – including a silhouette and a different victim/survivor story – to be displayed for one month at gas stations in urban areas.
Lower Sioux Indian Community, Morton MN	A number of events are planned to address all types of victimization, with an emphasis on human trafficking of females ages 14 – 21, and drug distribution and addiction of youth and young adults. Its 5K run will have t-shirts with the NCVRW theme translated into the Dakota language. An NCVRW dinner will feature a Dakota elder who will speak about healing from historical trauma.
Trinity Alliance of the Capital Region, Albany NY	One of six events being sponsored is entitled “Peaceful Hands, Healed Hearts,” a creative painting/play session for neighborhood youth in several high crime areas. Selected artwork will be displayed at a local arts center, along with an NCVRW theme banner.

<b>PUBLIC AWARENESS</b>	
Lassen Family Services, Inc., Susanville, CA	At its 4 <sup>th</sup> Annual “Walk a Mile in Their Shoes” event, victims will carry the 2017 NCVRW banner while leading the one-mile walk.
San Francisco DA’s Office, Victim Services Division, CA	A citywide event will include the planting of an interactive victims’ living wall commemorative garden, featuring succulents that participants can plant to honor a victim. The garden wall will later be moved to the Victim Services lounge at the DA’s office.
Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office, Golden, CO	The 24 <sup>th</sup> Annual NCVRW Courage Walk will end at the Courage Garden, with a speaker who is expert in childhood exposure to violence and childhood brain development.
Network for Victim Recovery of DC, Washington, DC	The Network will partner with two local libraries to host free “Know Your Rights” educational presentations during NCVRW; and will host a community engagement event that will be featured on Facebook Live and a Twitter Town Hall using the hashtag, #DefineJustice.
YWCA Kalamazoo, MI	Digital billboards will be created and placed around the city during NCVRW with the final billboard design selected by a focus group of crime victims and survivors.
Los Alamos Police Department, Los Alamos NM	The Department will sponsor a 30-minute radio interview featuring police officers, victims, public officials and service providers.
Trauma Support Services, Duncanville, TX	A number of NCVRW special events are being planned, with consideration of input from over 1—surveys from victims and victim advocates that sought feedback on the agency’s 2016 NCVRW event.
Utah Office for Victims of Crime, Salt Lake City, UT	Many activities are being planned, including a victim throwing the first pitch at a minor-league baseball game, with the Mayor reading an NCVRW proclamation; a Food Truck event that features victim awareness resources; and a quilt made by crime victims and survivors placed on display in the City/County Building.

<b>ARTS AND AWARENESS ACTIVITIES</b>	
Delaware Victims’ Rights Task Force, Wilmington, DE	Its many activities include a group of survivors who will create buttons using the colors and theme of NCVRW and a personal message; the buttons will be distributed at all NCVRW events.
Cape Coral Police Department, Cape Coral, FL	Children will paint “memory rocks” to display in their garden at home and, at the end of its NCVRW Community Awareness Event, bagpipers will lead attendees to butterfly plants on display. The plants will be donated to a memorial butterfly garden.
Albion Fellows Bacon Center, Evansville, IN	A Celebration of Survivors will engage survivors of all types of crime to speak out, share a poem, artwork, music or other expression of how their victimization has affected them and made them more resilient.
Winnemucca Domestic Violence Services, NV	A Victims of Crime Resource and Recovery Expo will be sponsored that will feature self-care services such as nutrition for healing, massage, yoga and therapy dogs.
Wynona’s House Child Advocacy Center, Newark, NJ	A painting event for 25 victims and survivors will feature an art therapy painting party led by an art therapist and mental health provider, with the art displayed at public locations around the city for two weeks before being returned to the artists.
Ulster County Probation, Crime Victims Assistance Program, Kingston NY	An Opening Ceremony for NCVRW will feature a proclamation and presentation by the County Executive with a special song entitled “Speak Now” sung, along with a moment of silence. A video of the event will be posted on the CVAP Facebook page.
Friendship of Women, Inc., Brownsville, TX	A three-hour block party will feature a live band, a Survivor Story Video, a poetry station and a dance performance that will focus on the NCVRW theme of strength and resilience.

<b>VICTIM/SURVIVOR EDUCATION</b>	
Crime Victims Advocacy Council, Inc., Atlanta, GA	One of the Council’s three projects is the production of a video to educate victims and the general public about civil justice services for victims.
Domestic Violence Association of Central Kansas, Salina, KS	At its NCVRW Community Festival, the Association will include a table with sheets of paper stating, “I Stand with Victims of Crime Because _____,” where participants can fill out a paper, take a photo with it, and post it to social media using the hashtag #NCVRW.
Office of the Victim Advocate,	Six professional video vignettes will feature first-person testimonials of persons in the

Harrisburg, PA	Resilient Voices Project, and will focus on the importance of victims' rights and how the NCVRW theme embodies and guides the experiences of each of the featured survivors.
Centre County District Attorney's Office, Bellefonte, PA	The NCVRW Walk, Vigil & Tribute to crime victims will include gift bags for each participant that features a white silhouette of a man, woman and child; participants will be encouraged to write their story of strength, resilience and justice and to write a note of encouragement to another victim/survivor.

### **For More Information**

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