



September 2016

MVSA

Missouri Victim Services Academy



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2016 Missouri Victim Services Academy

The ninth Annual Missouri Victim Services Academy was held Aug. 31-Sept. 2 in Osage Beach. The three-day academy was attended by over 40 participants representing victim service agencies throughout Missouri. MVSA provides attendees the invaluable opportunity to exchange best practices, brainstorm new ideas, and learn from one another as we all work to improve services for Missouri's crime victims.

Attendees of the 2016 academy were selected through an application process and completed 10 hours of pre-conference online training courses. The academy also featured a mentoring model where several experienced victim advocates led mentoring groups which met after the sessions to share their thoughts. Thank you to all attendees and mentors for your participation!

Thank you to all of the 2016 MVSA instructors for your valuable contribution to making this year's academy another success. The preparation and time contributed by the presenters is greatly appreciated. A special thank you is also due to the members of the MVSA committee for all of their hard work in planning this year's event.

Courses featured at the 2016 academy included:

- Trauma Informed Care: Applying the Trauma-Informed Framework to Victim Services
- Working with Victims with Disabilities: A Survivor's Perspective
- Organizational Culture and Diversity
- Compassion Fatigue for the Helping Professional
- Introduction to Traumatic Brain Injury
- Working with Victims with TBI: Making Services Accessible

During the academy, a joint reception and awards banquet was held with the Missouri Association of Prosecuting Attorneys (MAPA). At the banquet, three outstanding individuals were honored for their service to victims. Read more about this year's Outstanding Service award winners on pg. 2!

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M V S A

Missouri Victim Services Academy



Three outstanding individuals in the victim services field were recognized for their service and dedication to Missouri's crime victims. Tyler Rieke, DPS-CVSU program manager, presented one of the awards to Mark Koch. Katie Rickerson, Missouri Office of Prosecution Services statewide victim advocate coordinator, presented one of the awards to Kelly King.

2016 Victim Advocate

Outstanding Service to Victims Award

Mark Koch and Jessica Watson, Victim Specialists for the Boone County Prosecuting Attorney's Office were presented with the Outstanding Service to Victims Award. Mr. Koch and Ms. Watson were nominated by their colleagues for their compassion toward victims and the new ideas they develop to improve services in their office. Mr. Koch was recognized for his commitment to improving victim services in his roles with other organizations, including as president of the Missouri Victim Assistance Network. Ms. Watson, who could not attend, was praised for the valuable perspective she provides to prosecutors, and for developing informative resource materials for victims. Mr. Koch and Ms. Watson have also worked together to coordinate the National Crime Victims' Rights Week 5K hosted by the Boone County Prosecuting Attorney's Office to bring community awareness to NCVRW. Thank you, Mr. Koch and Ms. Watson for your continued service to crime victims.



2016 Prosecuting Attorney

Outstanding Service to Victims Award

Warren County Prosecuting Attorney, Kelly King (left), was presented with the Outstanding Service to Victims Award. Two staff members of St. Martha's Hall domestic violence shelter nominated Ms. King for her utmost professionalism with domestic violence cases. Ms. King sets an example of collaboration between the criminal justice system and community-based service providers working toward the common goal of keeping victims safe and holding perpetrators accountable. Ms. King approaches victims with respect and understanding and has facilitated this same attitude with other staff members in her office. Thank you, Ms. King, for your continued service to crime victims in Missouri.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM). The first DVAM was observed in October 1987, and it has grown throughout the years, bringing national attention to domestic violence. DVAM is a great time for local agencies to host events in their community to raise awareness for domestic violence and to share information about their services.

Domestic violence affects people from all walks of life and is present in every community. One in three women and one in four men have been physically abused by an intimate partner, and over 20,000 calls are received by domestic violence hotlines on an average day. Domestic violence can manifest itself in many ways, including physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, and financial abuse.

How can you get involved? The National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) is hosting a “Week of Action” from Oct. 16-22 with featured events every day, including #PurpleThursday, Oct. 20, when everyone is encouraged to wear purple. To learn more, go to NNEDV’s website at <http://nnedv.org/pages/4737-week-of-action-2016.html>.

Domestic Violence Statistics

- Domestic violence is most common among women ages 18-24.
- In the US, an average of 20 people are abused by intimate partners every minute.
- Domestic violence accounts for 15% of all violent crime.
- Victims of domestic violence lose a total of 8 million days of paid work each year.

Statistics compiled from the NCADV fact sheet, available at:

<http://www.ncadv.org/files/National%20Statistics%20Domestic%20Violence%20NCADV.pdf>

**Is your agency hosting any public awareness events to recognize DVAM?
Send in your photos and a description of the event to cvsu@dps.mo.gov to
be featured in the next edition of The Voice!**

Legislative Updates for MO Crime Victims

During the months of June and July, Gov. Jay Nixon signed the following bills into law which will benefit Missouri crime victims for years to come.



Senate Bill 921: Signed into law on July 1, SB 921 expands the right to notification to include victims of misdemeanor domestic violence offenses. Per RSMO 595.209, victims have the right to receive notification of court proceedings and about the release of offenders. Previously, the automatic right to notification was limited to victims of crimes defined as dangerous felonies. SB 921 also designates February as Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month in Missouri.

House Bill 1562: Signed into law on June 22, HB 1562 expands the crime of aggravated stalking to include the offense of attempting to obtain the address of a participant in the Missouri Safe at Home address confidentiality program. HB 1562 also includes victims of human trafficking as eligible participants of the Safe at Home program.

2016 VOCA National Training Conference

DPS-CVSU staff attended the 2016 VOCA National Training Conference held Aug. 9-11. This annual conference allows VOCA assistance administrators and state compensation administrators to come together and obtain important up-to-date information on VOCA funding. The conference provides states with the opportunity to exchange information and discuss ways to improve program and grant management. Many topics were covered over the three days, including federal civil rights requirements, the Fair Labor Standards Act, federal financial management, improving cultural competence, state victim assistance academy resources, and a VOCA assistance PMT update. This valuable experience provided DPS staff with a wealth of information which will be used to benefit crime victims in Missouri.



Agency Awareness Event

Child Safe of Central Missouri brought awareness to Child Abuse Prevention Month in their community during the month of April. Several area schools planted pinwheel gardens to recognize children who have been victims of child sexual abuse. Child Safe of Central Missouri planted 400 pinwheels, one per child who received service in Fiscal Year 2014/2015. Area fifth graders attended a ceremony on April 1 at the Pettis County Courthouse and planted the pinwheels. Members of the community listened as city and county leaders and the Executive Director of Child Safe of Central Missouri shared information on ways to prevent child abuse.



MOVANS 101

“Where does MOVANS get its information?”

A “Frequently Asked Question” CVSU receives is how does MOVANS obtain the information it uses for notification?

The answer depends on the type of notification.



- For notifications about an inmate’s current custody status at a county jail, MOVANS receives information directly from a connection to the jail’s booking system. As inmates are being booked in and out of custody, MOVANS receives the status changes to generate notification to registered victims. This process allows victims to receive information in a timely manner.
- For notification about a defendant’s court case, MOVANS receives information from the Office of State Court Administrator (OSCA). OSCA sends MOVANS information once every business day pertaining to public criminal court cases. MOVANS then uses the information to update registrants about court dates and times as well as case status changes.
- For notification about an active order of protection, MOVANS receives information from the Missouri Uniform Law Enforcement System (MULES). As protective order information and service information is being entered into MULES by local law enforcement agencies, it is automatically updated in MOVANS to deliver immediate notification to victims.

MOVANS registration is anonymous, and victims may choose to receive updates via phone call or email. It is completely free to use, and registration is easy online at www.vinelink.com or by phone at 866-5-MOVANS (866-334-6682).

If you would like a free on-site MOVANS training or MOVANS brochures for your agency, please contact Jenna Ridge at Jenna.Ridge@dps.mo.gov or (573)526-1929.

2016 CVSU Calendar

Please note dates are subject to change. To view the full 2016 CVSU calendar, please visit our website
<http://dps.mo.gov/dir/programs/cvsu/documents/2016-17-cvsu-calendar.pdf>

October 2016

November-December 2016

31 VOCA PMT Quarterly Report Due
 2016 VOCA Annual Report Due

No events currently scheduled.

Site Monitoring is Underway!

DPS staff have been on the road in 2016 visiting agencies receiving federal and/or state grant funds. Your DPS regional grant representative will be contacting you to schedule a date for your site monitoring visit. Helpful materials including Site Monitoring Sample Forms and a Site Visit FAQ are available on our website via the following links:

http://dps.mo.gov/dir/programs/cvsu/documents/grant_tracking.pdf and
http://dps.mo.gov/dir/programs/cvsu/documents/webgrants_site_visit_faq.pdf.

VOCA Grant Reporting: Due Date Reminders

Data for the Jul. 1, 2016 - Sept. 30, 2016 VOCA reporting period must be submitted via WebGrants by **Oct. 31, 2016 at 5:00 pm**. If you have any questions about the new VOCA quarterly reporting format, contact your regional grant representative.

Please note the 2016 VOCA Annual Report is also due on Oct. 31, 2016.

DPS-CVSU Staff Announcement

Best Wishes to Virginia Mohammed

Virginia Mohammed, former Victims' Rights Program Specialist with the Crime Victim Services Unit, has moved on to a new position with the Missouri Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence. We wish Virginia the best in her new role!

• BULLETIN • BOARD •



**OCTOBER IS
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
AWARENESS MONTH**

Break the silence. End the violence.



December is
National Impaired
Driving Prevention Month



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Missouri CVSU

*Need MOVANS
brochures or posters? Contact
our office at (573) 526-1929*

The Voice Newsletter is brought to you by the Missouri Department of Public Safety,
Office of the Director, Missouri Crime Victim Services Unit (MoCVSU).

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