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## from mac's executive director

Dear MAC Members and Friends:

Happy spring!

When I get ready to write my newsletter message each month, I usually look back at what I wrote a year ago. Wow! One year ago, we were just transitioning to remote working and had no idea how our world would change in the next twelve months. While many of us are still working remotely, social distancing from others, and wearing masks when we leave our homes, now there is real light at the end of the COVID-19 tunnel. The MAC team will be fully vaccinated by the middle of April and are beginning to discuss our return to our office. Just typing this makes me very happy!



We are excited to spend time with our member programs throughout the month of April at the virtual Regional Membership Meetings. We are also partnering with the Office of Justice Programs Crime Victim Justice Unit (CVJU) to bring you some incredible virtual training opportunities during National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 19-23, 2021. If you haven't registered for these events yet, please do so! We want to interact with as many of you as possible.

All of us at MAC have all learned so much over the past year and we hope we will carry most of those lessons with us as we slowly journey into a post-COVID-19 world. The transition to another new normal is a little scary, and for some, a source of anxiety. We all have different levels of comfort as we move forward and some of us may not want to return to business as usual, but would rather build something new and better that continues to value 'we' over 'me.'

I am going to re-share this message from Brené Brown because I think it just as applicable today as it was one year ago. The noted sociologist, researcher, and speaker challenges us to bring our best selves to new situations, despite the uncertainty and fear. "We don't have to be scary when we're scared," she shared. "Let's choose awkward, brave, and kind. And let's choose each other."

In awkwardness, bravery, and kindness,

Bobbi Holtberg

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### MAC Statement on the Chauvin Murder Trial

The Minnesota Alliance on Crime (MAC) acknowledges the mixed emotions and trauma the trial of Derek Chauvin may bring to our members and friends, especially BIPOC individuals and communities.

MAC stands in solidarity with all those who were impacted by the murder of George Floyd, especially Mr. Floyd's loved ones, and we hope the trial of Derek Chauvin will bring a measure of accountability for his senseless death.

MAC acknowledges that the criminal legal system cannot result in true justice until institutional racism and oppression are rooted out and the structure that allows it to continue is re-envisioned. MAC again

calls on Minneapolis Police Department Chief Medaria Arradondo and Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey to work with the most affected communities to achieve informed and sustainable change.

MAC is committed to connecting individuals looking for support and resources to organizations and communities that are standing by to provide services and listen to impacted individuals. Check out [MAC's resources](#) on racial justice and community healing on our website.

Please take care of yourselves during this challenging time.

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The Minnesota Alliance on Crime (MAC) is convening online regional meetings in spring 2021 for our members throughout the state. These FREE meetings are an excellent opportunity for you to discuss emerging issues in your community and to learn more about what's happening in other regions of the state and at MAC.

This April's regional meetings will also include a focused discussion on how we can intentionally use an anti-racist lens in our work so that we can best serve *all* victims of crime. This conversation will be facilitated by Julie Richards.

Participating in conversations about race, diversity, equality, and inclusion can feel uncomfortable. The MAC staff and board are committed to meeting our members where each of you are at and creating spaces free of judgment, shaming, and blaming.

In order to improve responses for all victims of crime, we need to commit ourselves to understanding the lived experiences of others, especially those that differ from our own experiences. If we can develop and apply a lens to our work with crime victims that sees and considers their lived experiences and their unique needs and barriers, then we can begin to improve responses for all victims of crime.

We are ALL learning together! The journey to understand and value cultures other than our own is a life-long journey and not a one-time workshop or conversation. MAC invites you to begin the conversation with us at our Spring 2021 Regional Membership Meetings and also let us know how we can support your individual journey.

### **About Julie Richards** *Inquire, Decipher, Progress*

**We are thrilled to welcome Julie Richards back to MAC!** Julie brings nearly twenty years of leadership, curriculum design, staff training/development, and program implementation through evaluation to conversations rooted in equitable family and youth development. Professional experiences across juvenile justice, children's mental health, and public and private education have given Julie the comprehensive lens necessary to help organizations create equitable and sustainable programming. She holds a bachelor's degree from Howard University in English and secondary education. Julie also has a master's degree in education policy, organization and leadership with a focus on diversity and equity from University of Illinois, Champagne-Urbana.





**All [MAC members](#) are welcome! Click below to register for your region's meeting.**

**[Northern Minnesota](#)**

**Wednesday, April 7: 1:00 to 4:00 pm**

**[Central Minnesota](#)**

**Tuesday, April 13: 9 am to noon**

**[Twin Cities Metro](#)**

**Thursday, April 22: 9 am to noon**

**[Southern Minnesota](#)**

**Wednesday, April 28: 1:00 to 4:00 pm**

If you have any questions, please contact [Danielle](#).

## news from the field

### **Casa de Esperanza/National Latin@ Network: Rosie Hidalgo Appointed to Serve on the White House Gender Policy Council**

Casa de Esperanza staff and board are beyond proud of Rosie Hidalgo's appointment to the White House Gender Policy Council (GPC), serving in the role of Senior Advisor on Gender-Based Violence. Rosie Hidalgo is nationally recognized by those working to end gender-based violence, as well as Latin@ leaders focused on Latin@ public policy priorities. For the last four years, Rosie has served as our Senior Director of Public Policy through our national initiative, the National Latin@ Network for Healthy Families and Communities, working tirelessly to ensure the rights of Latin@s and immigrants and improve pathways to safety and well-being.

### **Elise Schmelzer, Denver Post: Court Proceedings Can Take Years in Mass Shooting Cases. They're a Double-edged Sword for Victims' Families.**

John Castillo wanted the teens suspected of killing his son to look him in the face. He wanted them to see his pain. So for nearly two years, Castillo and his wife Maria have attended dozens of hearings in the cases of the two teens charged with opening fire in their Douglas County school and killing the Castillos' 18-year-old son Kendrick, weeks before his graduation. The Castillos sat through dry legal arguments and hours of tearful testimony. Every hearing is a step closer to some semblance of justice, Castillo said, but it's also a sharp reminder of the killing of their son — salt in a wound that has never healed. The news of another mass shooting about 40 miles north at a King Soopers store in Boulder has brought Castillo full circle, he said. He knows what the families of the 10 people shot and killed while working and grocery shopping will face in the months and years ahead. [Read more.](#)

### **Minnesota Elder Justice Center: 2021 Jane Ochrymowycz Award for Advocacy - Call for Nominations**

On December 30, 2011, the Minnesota elder justice community lost a legendary elder justice advocate, Jane Ochrymowycz. Jane's legislative advocacy and biography reflect major milestones in elder justice. With this award, the Minnesota Elder Justice Center honors advocates, whose talent, generosity and spirit embody the characteristics of Jane Ochrymowycz as they champion the safety and rights of older and vulnerable adults. The award will be presented on the opening day of the Minnesota World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Conference. The deadline for nominations is May 3, 2021. [For more details, please view the full nomination instructions.](#)

### **Minnesota Public Radio: The Effects of Trauma on Communities of Color**

In the wake of the fatal police shooting of Philando Castile and the subsequent demonstrations, we look at the psychological effects of trauma on communities - particularly historical trauma in communities of color. How does that trauma affect people's health and create health disparities? And what role do collective histories play? [Listen now.](#)

### **National Network to End Domestic Violence Safety Net: Vaccine Registries & Survivor Privacy**

We've had a lot of questions come our way recently about how vaccine registries work and how survivors can keep their information private while accessing this essential health care service. In response, we just launched a new [blog post](#) and resource on [Vaccine Registries & Survivor Privacy](#).

## Ohio Domestic Violence Network: New Self-Care Web Resource

The Ohio Domestic Violence Network has launched a comprehensive web-based resource center for self-care, called [Support for Stressful Times](#). It includes a virtual yoga studio as well as many free and public mindfulness and breathing practice exercises. The virtual yoga studio exercises can be practiced while standing or sitting. This is a good resource for advocates and anyone experiencing increased stress during the pandemic.

## Stop AAPI Hate: National Report

This report covers the 3,795 incidents received by the Stop AAPI Hate reporting center from March 19, 2020 to February 28, 2021. The number of hate incidents reported to our center represent only a fraction of the number of hate incidents that actually occur, but it does show how vulnerable Asian Americans are to discrimination, and the types of discrimination they face. [Read more](#).

## The Crime Report: Coverage of Mass Shootings Ignores Black Victims

While news reports of the two most recent mass shootings, in Boulder, Co., and Atlanta, suggest that the two instances are a dramatic resurgence of violence after a year of quiet, mass shootings actually only slowed under a commonly used but restrictive definition that leaves out most mass-casualty incidents, especially when considering the race of the victims, reports *Slate*. In 2020, mass shootings disproportionately occurred in majority-Black neighborhoods and received limited national media attention, regardless of the amount of casualties. [Read more](#).

## Yang Tian, The Guardian: There's Only So Much Pain the Asian Community Can Swallow Before We Realize We're Drowning

The overwhelming response within the global Asian community to news that a 21-year-old white man had targeted three Asian owned businesses in Atlanta and massacred eight people was, "not again". We saw this coming because we had been living it. It was inevitable. [Read more](#).

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## Law Enforcement Victim Information Card: Satisfying the Statutory Obligation Electronically

*Suzanne Elwell, Minnesota Office of Justice Programs Crime Victims Justice Unit*

National Crime Victims' Rights Week is the perfect time for advocates to remind their local law enforcement agencies about their statutory obligation to provide notice of rights and resources to crime victims at first contact. Even better, you can tell them about the online resource that provides them the ability to provide that information electronically, in multiple languages.

The Office of Justice Programs has quick links available to law enforcement agencies to provide victim information cards by email or text. Responding officers and those taking reports over the phone or online can text or email the victim with the link to the appropriate webpage along with the incident report number.

### Language-specific law enforcement notice to crime victims:

[English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Somali](#) | [Hmong](#) | [Oromo](#) | [Hindi](#) | [Amharic](#) | [Arabic](#) | [Vietnamese](#) | [Karen](#)

### General landing page for law enforcement notice: [Link](#)

In addition to providing information about statutory rights at first contact, law enforcement officers must also inform all victims of local resources. Here are some links to basic information for victims:

### Help for crime victims - OJP website [English](#) | [Spanish](#) | [Somali](#) | [Hmong](#)

For more information about the statutory requirements and guidance on providing information to victims electronically, [click here](#).

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## RFP for Safe Harbor Shelter and Housing Open

The Request for Proposals for the Office of Economic Opportunity's (OEO) Safe Harbor Shelter and Housing grant is now published on the DHS Grants and RFPs website, <https://mn.gov/dhs/partners->

OEO is seeking proposals to provide specialized outreach, shelter, and housing services to youth experiencing sexual exploitation for the period of July 1, 2021-June 30, 2023. The funding source for this RFP is Safe Harbor Shelter and Housing grant funding.

- This is state funding regularly administered by OEO and is NOT specific to the COVID-19 pandemic response.
- Awards will be made after the 2021 Minnesota Legislature adjourns when the final funding level is determined.

Proposals must be submitted electronically by 4:00 pm (Central Time) on **Thursday, April 29, 2021**.

There will be a virtual responders conference on **Tuesday April 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm**, it will be recorded and posted, and a document with responders questions and answers will be posted with the RFP on the DHS Grants and RFPs website. Questions can be emailed to [dina.chou@state.mn.us](mailto:dina.chou@state.mn.us).

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## Minnesota Judicial Branch Launches Minnesota Court Records Online

The Minnesota Judicial Branch now provides online access to many Minnesota district (trial) court public documents. [Minnesota Court Records Online \(MCRO\)](#) is an application, that once fully implemented, will replace Minnesota Public Access (MPA) Remote as the online platform for public access to state district court documents.

MCRO provides the public with the ability to search for and retrieve appropriate public court documents without having to go to a courthouse or the State Law Library. The new application features a modern design, and increased usability and reliability over MPA Remote.

The Minnesota Judicial Branch is rolling out MCRO in three phases. During this first phase, appropriate public documents filed in a case are accessible when searching only with the case number. Future phases of MCRO will include access to Registers of Actions, the ability to search for cases using party and attorney names, and the use of advanced search features that includes calendar and judgment searches. MPA Remote, the current online platform, will remain available until MCRO is fully implemented.

As MCRO is being rolled out in phases, and not all functionality will be available until its full implementation in 2022, the fee for documents accessed via MCRO will not be implemented until court customers have complete access to the system. The statutory fee for purchasing copies of documents at courthouses and the State Law Library remains in effect.

The [Rules of Public Access to the Records of the Minnesota Judicial Branch](#) determine which case types and documents in those case types are public information, as well as whether that information can be accessed and retrieved remotely.

**Users can now access and download the following types of public documents through MCRO:**

**Documents Filed on or after July 1, 2015:**

- All public documents in all Major and Minor Criminal case types.
- All public documents in all Major and Minor Civil case types.
- All public documents in all public Formal Probate, Other Probate, Guardianship and Conservatorship, and Trust case types.
- Public orders, appellate opinions, and notices prepared by the court in public Family case types and post-adjudication paternity proceedings.

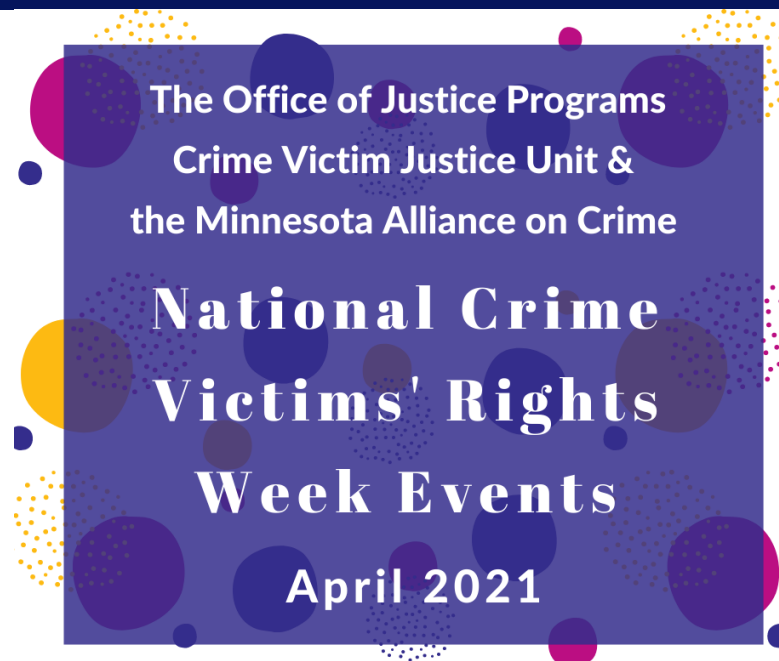
**Additional Documents:**

- Judgments, orders, appellate opinions, and court-generated notices to parties filed from July 1, 2005, to June 30, 2015, in case types that were publicly and remotely accessible at the time of filing.
- Access to documents in MCRO filed prior to July 1, 2015, is very limited. It depends on when the document was imaged, and if the case type was publicly and remotely accessible at the time of filing.

**Not Accessible through MCRO:**

- Registers of Actions and the ability to search for cases using party names. These will be accessible during Phase 2 of the MCRO rollout, currently anticipated for later in 2021.
- The use of advanced search features, including calendar and judgment searches. These will be accessible during Phase 3 of the MCRO rollout, currently anticipated for 2022.
- Public documents in public Civil Commitment, Domestic Abuse, Harassment, Delinquency Felony, and Child in Need of Protection or Services (CHIPS) cases.
- Search warrants.

## upcoming trainings & webinars



### Join Us for Two Great Opportunities in April

Join the Minnesota Office of Justice Programs Crime Victim Justice Unit (CVJU) and the Minnesota Alliance on Crime (MAC) for two free, virtual training events for the victim advocacy community to commemorate National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW).

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#### **Crime Victim Rights Refresher: Starting off NCVRW the RIGHTS Way**

*Presented by Suzanne Elwell, Minnesota Office of Justice Programs Crime Victim Justice Unit*

##### **Monday, April 19, 2021 from Noon to 1:00 p.m.**

Start off NCVRW with a FREE refresher on crime victim rights in Minnesota. This virtual lunchtime session is designed to hit the highlights, remind you of the importance of these rights, and inspire you to be a crime victim rights violation prevention agent.

[Click to register for the Crime Victim Rights Refresher Webinar](#)

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#### **Victim Rights Virtual Roundtable: Hot Topics for Victim Advocates**

*Presented by MAC and CVJU staff*

##### **Wednesday, April 21, 2021, Noon to 1:15 p.m.**

We'll serve up some hot topics faced by victim advocates over the lunch hour in a virtual World Café style format. Engage with your colleagues and counterparts to discuss the challenges you have helping crime victims through the criminal justice process, preventing further harm, and ensuring that crime victim rights are upheld.

[Click to register for the Virtual Roundtable](#)

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## 2021 Minnesota World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Conference

The **2021 Minnesota World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Conference** will be held virtually June 14-16th, from 9 am-noon each day. The WEAAD conference elevates issues of elder abuse, neglect and financial exploitation and provides education on best practices for prevention and response.

We are thrilled to announce [Ai-jen Poo](#), best-selling author and an award-winning organizer, as this year's keynote speaker.

The conference registration cost is \$65 and provides access to all three days. CEU, CLE, POST credits and a general certificate of attendance are included. A link to join will be made available to all registrants prior to the conference start and will be valid for the duration of the conference.

For the full conference schedule and details, [please visit our website](#). [Conference sponsorship opportunities are still available](#). Please direct questions to [katie.behrens@elderjusticemn.org](mailto:katie.behrens@elderjusticemn.org).



Join Victor Vieth, Rita Farrell, and other national investigative child protection experts as the 2021 Zero Abuse Project Summit explores emerging issues in forensic interviewing, investigation, and prosecution.

CLE credits now available.

[Click here for registration and more information](#).

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## Other Trainings and Webinars

### After Experiencing Sexual Assault: Support and Healing

Sponsored by Women's Advocates with SOS Sexual Violence Services

Webinar | April 7, 2021 | 1:00 to 2:30 pm

Participants will be able to identify and discuss SOS services with survivors of sexual assault. Participants will develop an understanding of what sexual assault is, who perpetrates, and the impact that sexual assault survivors experience. Participants will learn skills to support sexual assault survivors and what resources are available to promote healing. [Learn more](#).

### Unlocking Victims' Rights

Sponsored by Standpoint

Webinar | April 15, 2021 | 2:00 to 3:30 pm

This webinar will highlight key points in the Victims' Rights Movement, followed by a review of Minn. Stat. 611A, which lists crime victims' rights in Minnesota. The presenters will also discuss two forms of financial remuneration available to crime victims: restitution and reparations. Future possibilities regarding crime victim's rights will be included throughout the presentation. Material will be presented by Amy Isenor and Nikki Kelly from Standpoint. [Learn more](#).

### Deep Dive Into Consent

Sponsored by Women's Advocates with Family Tree Clinic

Webinar | April 15, 2021 | 1:00 to 2:30 pm



Learn about what consent is, how it differs from coercion, and why consent education in schools is necessary, but not enough to prevent sexual violence. Recognize sexual violence as a form of gender oppression, and consider ways to promote inclusive and expansive attitudes about gender, as a sexual violence prevention strategy. Reflect on your own circle of influence and how you can contribute to building a culture of consent in your relationships, at home, at work, and in public. [Learn more.](#)

## **Extractive Industries and Sex Trafficking of Native Women and Youth**

**Sponsored by World Without Exploitation**

**Webinar | April 15, 2021 | 11:00 am**

Extractive industries involve the removal of non-renewable raw materials such as oil, gas, metals, and minerals from the earth. Service providers in areas near camps surrounding large-scale oil extraction facilities, such as the Bakken oil fields in North Dakota, have reported that sex traffickers have exploited women in the area, including Native American women. In this webinar, we will hear from experts and advocates who are organizing against extraction efforts. These advocates will explain how and why these activities do not only harm the environment but how Native people are paying a price. [Learn more.](#)

## **Suggestibility and Memory: Considerations for the Criminal Investigation**

**Sponsored by the Minnesota Children's Alliance**

**Webinar | April 20, 2021 | 10:00 am to Noon**

**Cost: \$15**

This module will provide criminal investigators with the principles of suggestibility to inform their understanding when interacting with victims and witnesses of crime. A brief history of forensic interviewing and current research on memory will allow participants to see how victim/witness statements have been viewed and evaluated in the past and today. Participants will learn to better evaluate statements throughout the course of a criminal investigation from outcry, to forensic interview, to trial.

[Learn more.](#)

## **Sexual Violence and Healthy Relationships 101**

**Sponsored by Women's Advocates with the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault**

**Webinar | April 26, 2021 | 10:00 to 11:30 am**

Participants will be able to identify the different forms and red flags of sexual violence, create a key and foundational understanding of primary prevention, and learn how to recognize and implement healthy relationship skills. [Learn more.](#)

## **Self-Care for Advocates Conference**

**Sponsored by Self-Care for Advocates**

**Virtual conference | May 12-14, 2021**

**Registration fee: \$25**

Self-Care For Advocates is hosting its second annual conference. Join us this May to learn from experts on topics of burnout, vicarious trauma, trauma-informed supervision, community care, mental health, and more. [Learn more.](#)

## **Conference on Crimes Against Women**

**Sponsored by: See below**

**Virtual conference | May 17-19 and May 24-26, 2021**

**Registration fees: Vary**

Created as a partnership between the Dallas Police Department, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and Genesis Women's Shelter & Support, CCAW offers over 140 workshops, case studies, and hands-on computer labs taught by local and national experts who explore the various facets of these heinous crimes and provide the most cutting-edge, relevant, and creative tools that attendees can implement in their professions. Drawing 3,000 annually, CCAW is the only Conference that addresses ALL crimes against women with a multi-disciplinary focus that encourages a coordinated community response. [Learn more.](#)

u p c o m i n g   e v e n t s



The Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault invites you to attend [AWARE](#), our annual benefit and celebration of community members working to end sexual violence in Minnesota. This year's keynote speaker is Sarah Deer, citizen of the Muskogee (Creek) Nation of Oklahoma and legal scholar, university professor, and activist for Indigenous women.

AWARE is a space to learn, be inspired, and find community with other people who are passionate about ending sexual violence. The funds we raise through ticket sales and donations go toward our work to prevent sexual violence, advocate for victims/survivors, and promote safer, more inclusive communities.

If you're committed to ending sexual violence and want to dive deeper into this effort, we invite you to join us virtually on April 22 for AWARE 2021: Justice Embodied!

## employment opportunities

### Resources for job seekers:

[Association of Minnesota Counties Jobs](#)

[Indeed](#)

[Legal Services State Support Positions Available](#)

[Minnesota Council of Nonprofits Job Board](#)

[Minnesota County Attorney's Association Job Bank](#)

## contact us

As always, if you have any suggestions for MAC, we welcome your input!

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## about the minnesota alliance on crime

The Minnesota Alliance on Crime connects systems, service providers, and victims to advance the response for victims of all crime. MAC is a membership coalition of more than 90 crime victim service providers in Minnesota, including prosecution-based victim/witness programs, community programs, law enforcement agencies, and individuals committed to supporting crime victims. We support our membership through training, technical assistance, resources, public policy and legislative initiatives, and networking opportunities.

**For more information about MAC, go to [www.mnallianceoncrime.org](http://www.mnallianceoncrime.org).**

**To join our coalition of crime victim service programs, [click here](#).**