



December 2017 Newsletter

MAC
MINNESOTA ALLIANCE ON CRIME



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From MAC's Executive Director

Over the last few weeks the epidemic of sexual assault and harassment that has long existed in all corners of our society has begun to be exposed. People who come forward to confront their sexual abusers and harassers do so at great cost and risk to themselves. These courageous individuals are often met with shaming statements, disbelief, and blame. Communities and workplaces are frequently complicit in the protection of abusers. Confronting a painful truth is easily passed over in favor of excuses and denial. The brave actions of the people who have gone on the record and the journalists who have shared their truth have powerfully challenged that paradigm.

As uncomfortable as it has been to be confronted with the reality that people we have respected and trusted have perpetrated acts of sexual violence, that discomfort pales in comparison to the trauma experienced by their victims. For some victims, sharing their stories and naming their abusers can be cathartic, but for many more it can bring additional and unexpected trauma. As a community we need to make sure that all victims who choose to share their stories are believed and supported, as well as those who cannot share their stories.



No one should fear for their safety in the workplace or in our communities and no one should feel immune from the consequences of their actions. Accountability is essential to destroy the dangerous and persistent idea that some perpetrators are above the law. We have to begin by examining our own biases and beliefs surrounding power and privilege, and strengthening our commitment to holding all perpetrators accountable.

A very wise woman once told me that in order for victims to experience any measure of justice the truth of what has happened to them must be told, the harm that was caused must be repaired to the greatest extent possible, and the social conditions that allowed the violence to occur must be eradicated. Every victim deserves justice and we must continue to lift their voices, provide opportunities for healing, and hold perpetrators accountable.

If you are feeling overwhelmed and not sure where to start...start by believing the next victim who chooses to share their story with you.

Happy holidays to all of you!

In Peace,

Bobbi Holtberg



Smile During the Holidays: Support MAC by Shopping at AmazonSmile

This holiday season, you can support the Minnesota Alliance on Crime the easy way - by shopping at AmazonSmile!

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to support MAC every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you'll find the exact same convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to MAC.

To shop at AmazonSmile and give to MAC, simply go to smile.amazon.com and designate MAC as your charity recipient. You may also want to add a bookmark to smile.amazon.com to make it even easier to return to shop and support MAC at the same time!

Happy Holidays!

MAC's offices will be closed on Monday, December 25th and Monday, January 1 for the holidays.



Deadline Approaching: NCVRW 2018 Printed Poster

Expand the Circle: Reach All Victims is the theme for National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW), to be observed April 8–14, 2018, is Expand the Circle: Reach All Victims. [Sign up for the NCVRW mailing list or update your preferences](#) by December 6 to ensure you receive the printed theme poster.

Federal Bureau of Investigation: 2016 Hate Crime Statistics

The FBI released [Hate Crime Statistics 2016](#), which showed that hate crimes increased nearly five percent last year – the second year there has been an increase.

2018 Sexual Assault Awareness Month Resources

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. [Click here](#) for online resources to help you promote SAAM.

Fact Sheet: Seven Components of a Culturally Responsive Approach to Serving Diverse Populations

[The National Research Center on Hispanic Children & Families released a fact sheet](#) that outlines a comprehensive approach for practitioners looking to create strong, culturally responsive programs for community-based organizations. This resource guide helps to ensure that practitioners don't need to start from scratch when working to design programs that serve all members of their communities.



Western Union Identity Theft Update

The Federal Trade Commission [announced recently](#) that victims who lost money to a scammer by sending money via Western Union between 1/1/2004 to 1/19/2017 have until February 12, 2018 to file a claim to get their money back. [The FTC's settlement with Western Union](#), which agreed to return \$586 million to people to settle the FTC's charges that Western Union hadn't adequately protected people from fraud, and didn't properly discipline problem agents.

Some of the details, per the FTC article:

- If you already reported your fraud loss to Western Union, the FTC, or another government agency, you might get a claim form in the mail. [You can file your claim online](#) – just use the Claim ID and the PIN that are on the form you get in the mail.
- If you didn't already report your loss, or you don't get a claim form in the mail, go online to file your claim. Start at [FTC.gov/WU](#) to get to the claims website.
- The claim forms ask for your Social Security number (SSN). That's because, before they can send you a check, DOJ is required to see whether you owe money to the US government. For that they need your SSN. That's why we're suggesting filing your claim on the [secure website](#).
- It will take up to a year for the DOJ to process claims.

Please share this news so we can continue to help support victims of scams and build awareness around such an important issue.

If you have questions about MAC's Minnesota Identity Theft and Cybercrime Information and Resource Network (MITCIRN), please email [Julia Tindell](#).

Minnesota Department of Administration Advisory Opinion 17-008: Classification of Domestic Violence Victim Information

The Minnesota Department of Administration has issued an advisory opinion based on a request from Chief Scott Johnson of the Grand Rapids Police Department regarding the classification of client location data maintained by a nonprofit domestic violence advocacy organization.

Based on the facts and information provided, Commissioner Matthew Massman's opinion is as follows: "Location data maintained by a nonprofit domestic violence advocacy organization that would reveal where a victim of violence is residing must be maintained as private data and cannot be disclosed without statutory authorization, consent, or a court order."

More information:

- [Full Opinion](#)
- [MCBW: Advocate's Confidentiality Guide](#)
- [Minnesota Collaborative on Domestic Violence: Missing Persons Reports and Domestic Violence Victims](#)

Submit an Article About Your Program and Services for the Minnesota Corrections Association Newsletter

The Minnesota Corrections Association (MCA) has an internal newsletter that is



circulated to their membership of approximately 700 every other month. Criminal Justice Professionals who receive the DOC newsletter work throughout the State of Minnesota in a variety of roles. Members work with offenders and their families by supervising them in the community, providing treatment services, and within the court system, among others. The membership also encompasses staff that work in detention centers and correctional facilities. Often times, victims of crime may contact MCA members through their work to learn more about their rights, as well as, notification options while the person that caused harm is incarcerated, or on supervised release.

In an attempt to support criminal justice professionals, the Victim Services Committee is creating a section in this newsletter dedicated to victim related issues. One goal we have is to increase the membership's knowledge of the services and resources available to victims in the community.

The Victim Services Committee within MCA is interested in submissions from advocacy programs for the newsletter. We would greatly appreciate it if programs could submit a brief article on the overview of their organization. Information may include, an organization's service area, programming focus or services provided, staff size or an overview of the victims being served. Submissions may also be distributed throughout the Minnesota Department of Corrections to increase awareness of victim issues and resources. You are also welcome to submit a photo which may accompany the article.

To submit your program information, or for additional questions, please contact Lori Korts at lori.korts@state.mn.us or [651.361.7248](tel:651.361.7248). Thank you for your time and consideration.



minnesota alliance on crime

december webinar: effective survey design

presenters: sara cohn & al onkka,
aurora consulting

december 6, 2017 - noon to 1:00 pm

Surveys are often the first or only evaluation tool used by nonprofits, but poor survey design can produce untrustworthy or irrelevant results. This webinar will introduce participants to the fundamentals of good survey design. Participants will learn strategies for focusing their survey on what's important, tailoring their survey to their audience's needs, and promoting participation in the final product. Throughout, the presenters will answer questions and provide resources for participants to use in their organization.

MAC is excited to present this webinar featuring Aurora Consulting, consultants with whom MAC has worked for several years to successfully develop and implement our strategic plan and new training evaluation process.

Webinar Fees:

FREE for all.

About Our Presenters:

Aurora Consulting

Aurora Consulting boosts your capacity to lead your nonprofit into the future. We believe in the power of thoughtful evaluation, strategic planning, and leadership development.

Sarah Cohn, Principal Consultant, Aurora Consulting

I help you boost your ability to plan and administer evaluation programs so you can understand your customer's needs and expectations, improve the quality of your programs and services and plan for the future.

Al Onkka, Principal Consultant, Aurora Consulting

I look through an evaluative lens to get a better read on your organization and its programs and help you build a culture of evaluation. This will help you make smarter decisions, measure progress, and be responsive to the changing needs of your community.

Please register by the end of the day on Monday, December 4, 2017.

[Click to Register](#)

Other Trainings and Webinars

Holiday Scams Targeting Businesses & Consumers ID Theft Chat

Sponsored by the Identity Theft Resource Center and Generali Global Assistance

Twitter Chat | December 7, 2017 | 2:00 pm

The holiday season is in full swing and scammers can be up to snow good. With the number of scams likely to increase, it's important to be extra vigilant in protecting your personal information and finances. Join @ITRCSD and @GeneraliGA_NA for our holiday edition of #IDTheftChat on Twitter! Learn how to spot scams targeting businesses and consumers. To join the chat, follow the #DTheftChat hashtag on Twitter.

Key Issues in the Sexual Assault Response

Sponsored by Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault

In Person | December 12th-13th, 2017 | 9:00 am to 4:00 pm each day | Klas Center, St. Paul, MN |

Fee: \$25

MNCASA presents Joanne Archambault and Kim Lonsway, national experts on sexual assault issues from the federal technical assistance provider End Violence Against Women International, in the Twin Cities, December 12-13, 2017. Over the course of two days, the presenters will cover a range of topics including the following: DNA testing and cold cases, neurobiology of trauma, law enforcement investigations, victim interviewing and report writing, gender bias in policing. The presentation will include lecture as well as case studies. [Learn more.](#)

Self Care for Advocates 101

Sponsored by Standpoint

Webinar | December 21, 2017 | 2:00 to 3:30 pm

This webinar will discuss with advocates the importance of incorporating self care into their daily life and work culture, ideas for what a work culture that embraces self care looks like, and current trends for self care.

[Learn more.](#)

Let MAC help your organization get the word out about your training or event!

If you have a training or event to submit for inclusion in the MAC newsletter, please email the following to Danielle Kluz at danielle@mnallianceoncrime.org:

- Training/event title
- Sponsoring agency/organization
- Date and time
- Location
- Names of trainers/presenters
- Cost
- Brief description of training/event



- More info/how to register (web link preferred, will accept attachments)

Please send by the 27th of the month for inclusion in the following month's newsletter.



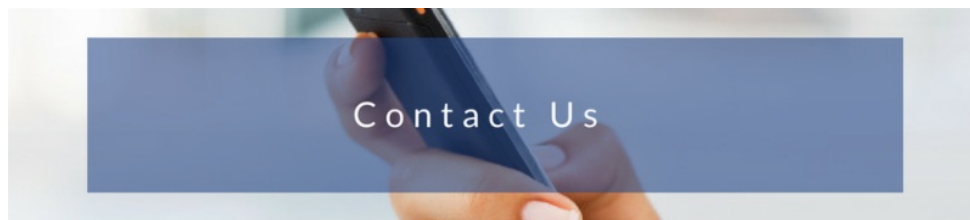
[Click for the latest published decisions from the Minnesota Appellate and Supreme Court.](#)



[Click for the latest victim service employment opportunities in Minnesota.](#)

If you have job postings you would like us to include in our monthly newsletter, please include the following information and email to Danielle Kluz at danielle@mnallianceoncrime.org by the 26th of each month.

- Location
- Job title
- Organization name
- Link to organization's website
- Link to the job posting
- Closing date



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

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Danielle Kluz, Training and Engagement Coordinator
danielle@mnallianceoncrime.org

Julia Tindell, Program Coordinator
julia@mnallianceoncrime.org

Otis Alexander, Chief Morale Officer

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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 70 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.