



MAY 2022 NEWS

MINNESOTA ALLIANCE ON CRIME

mnallianceoncrime.org



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from mac's executive director



A lot is at stake in the three weeks remaining in the 2022 Legislative Session, as state policymakers decide how to use the historic \$9.3 billion projected surplus for FY 2022-23 and remaining flexible ARPA funds.

This is an incredible opportunity to fund the things we know make safer and thriving communities: increased funding for community led public safety initiatives, crime victim services, restorative - justice initiatives, affordable child care, affordable housing, and so much more.

Unfortunately, instead of making transformative investments in Minnesotans and our communities, some policymakers want to do nothing, or worse yet double down on funding systems that have proven to not increase the quality of life for most Minnesotans.

It's not too late to make your voice heard. Call and email legislators that represent you, and ask them to invest in crime victim services and the basic needs they, and all of us need, to live safely in our communities.

Not sure who your legislators are? [Click here to find out](#). Once conferees have been assigned to the Public Safety Policy and Finance Conference Committee, we will send an email with contact information for each of the committee members.

This is a pivotal year for funding for crime victim services. We need to tell the story about the positive difference advocates make in the lives of crime victims, and what can't be done for victims', because of the lack of resources.

Feel free to contact me for more information about what is at stake if the legislature doesn't act to provide increased funding to meet the basic needs of all Minnesotans, including crime victims.

In Peace,
Bobbi

mac staff news



Welcome our new intern Sophie Traynor!

Sophie is currently a junior at Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI. She is pursuing a BA in both Criminology and International Affairs, with a minor in Spanish. After graduation, Sophie hopes to work for the FBI or another federal law enforcement body, specifically in counterterrorism or human trafficking. Sophie loves fitness, especially lifting and running half marathons. She also loves to cook and is always excited to discover new restaurants and coffee shops in downtown Milwaukee. Sophie is thrilled to be joining the MAC staff and is looking forward to participating in all the trainings and opportunities MAC has to offer.

news from the field

Last Week was Crime Victim Rights Week. Here is the White House's [proclamation](#) recognizing last week as 2022 National Crime Victims' Rights Week.

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) issued a new publication summarizing Native youth responses to questions about public safety and resilience, and recommendations to OJJDP on ways to protect and promote Tribal youth well-being. It also features a Tribal Youth Resource Center training program to help OJJDP Tribal grantees develop strategic plans. [Click here to read the article.](#)

NNEDV's [16th Annual Domestic Violence Counts Report](#) showed that, in a single day in 2021, 38,608 adult and child victims of domestic violence found refuge in emergency shelters, transitional housing, hotels, motels, or other housing provided by local domestic violence programs. Sadly, on the same day, more than 6,000 additional requests for these services went unmet due to a lack of resources.

OJP Publication Translations Released for Child Victims and Witnesses Support Materials - OVC comic books and graphic novels that support children and youth, ages 2-18, as they navigate the justice system were recently translated to Spanish, Chinese (simplified), Vietnamese, Arabic, and Haitian Creole.

New from **OJJDP**, [Beyond Case Review: The Value of the Role of Team Facilitator in the Multidisciplinary Team](#) - This publication clarifies and elevates the role of Team Facilitator under the multidisciplinary team and Children's Advocacy Center model. There is now an amazing website dedicated to ending the backlog of rape kits, sponsored by Joyful Heart. It tracks legislation in all 50 states, and has resources for survivors, legislators and journalists. Check it out [here](#).

Zero Abuse Project is thrilled to announce the release of two new publications available for free [on their website](#): ***Interviewing Children with Disabilities: A Practical Guide for Forensic Interviewers*** and ***Child Victims with Disabilities: A Guide for Prosecutors***. Of the nearly 700,000 children who experience abuse, maltreatment or neglect each year, children with disabilities are affected at staggering rates despite being

underrepresented in our child protection and judicial systems. Zero Abuse Project has authored these two publications to assist forensic interviewers, investigators, and prosecutors when working with children with disabilities.

The International Association of Chiefs of Police, Mass Violence Advisory Initiative, has a great new podcast! “Join survivor Max Schachter and Chief (Ret.) Kristen Ziman as they discuss lessons learned from their direct experiences with mass violence tragedies. They focus on empathetic engagement and mindful communication with victims and families. **This podcast** also highlights the IACP Mass Violence Advisory Initiative – a project that provides no-cost peer-to-peer assistance to law enforcement leaders following a mass violence incident. Funding for **this podcast** is provided by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance.”

New Report: State’s Response to the 2020 Civil Unrest. In the wake of the civil unrest following the police killing of George Floyd, the MN Department of Public Safety commissioned Wilder Research to prepare an after-action review of the state’s response. **MNJRC was honored to bring the voices of community members into the report.** Our gratitude goes out to everyone who participated, and to Wilder for looking to us to partner with them on this work. **[Read the report here.](#)**

How does white supremacy show up in online spaces? **PreventConnect** sat down with the creators of the National Sexual Violence Resource Center’s 2022 Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Campaign: **[Building Safe Online Spaces Together](#)** to talk about what’s missing in the mainstream conversation about online safety and what Preventionists and Practitioners can do to live their values online.

Are you interested in measuring victim service outcomes? **The Center for Victim Research (CVR)** is helping our partners develop a new tool for victim service programs to use in measuring their outcomes. The tool will provide a simple survey survivors can take following services. The tool will include several modules that provide a base survey, with options for additional questions. We are seeking a few volunteer agencies to test out the guidance for finding their base survey. Can you help? Testing will involve a video call of up to an hour; you try to find your module, we ask a few questions along the way. **[If you are interested, contact us.](#)**

Breaking Free is looking for an **Executive Director**. Breaking Free is a social justice, 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Our vision is to end all forms of sex trafficking, prostitution and sexual exploitation. As a recognized leader and pioneer, Breaking Free provides culturally specific, survivor-centered, trauma-informed advocacy, direct services, housing, and education to survivors of prostitution and sex trafficking and their children. **[For more information and to apply by May 4th.](#)**

Funding Opportunities:

- FY 2022 Connect and Protect: **[Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program](#)**. This program provides funding to support law enforcement-behavioral health cross-system collaboration to improve public health and safety responses and outcomes for individuals with mental health disorders and co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders. Grants.gov Deadline: May 27, 2022
- FY 2022 **[Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program](#)**. This program provides funding to support cross-system collaboration to improve public safety responses and outcomes for individuals with mental health disorders or co-occurring mental health and substance use disorders who come into contact with the justice system. Grants.gov Deadline: May 27, 2022
- FY 2022 **[Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Program](#)**. This program provides funding to conduct outreach and offer training on identifying hate crimes, as well as to investigate and prosecute hate crimes. Grants.gov Deadline: May 27, 2022
- FY 2022 **[National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative](#)**. This program provides funding to address the issue and impact of unsubmitted sexual assault kits at law enforcement agencies. Grants.gov Deadline: May 27, 2022
- FY 2022 **[Collaborative Crisis Response and Intervention Training Program](#)**. This program provides support to law enforcement on how to effectively partner with mental health, substance use disorder, and community service agencies to promote public safety and ensure appropriate responses to individuals who have behavioral health conditions, intellectual disabilities, developmental

upcoming MAC trainings and webinars



Cultivating Culture Change

Upcoming Webinars and Workshops

**Open to all individuals working in Crime Victim Services*

THE QUIET PART MADE LOUD: BURNOUT, ADAPTABILITY, AND MANAGING OCCUPATIONAL IDENTITY FOR WELLBEING

Thursday, May 5, 2022

12:00-1:30 p.m. CST

BUILDING YOUR PERSONAL CHANGE MAP: OCCUPATIONAL IDENTITY MANAGEMENT FOR CAREER SUSTAINABILITY

Thursday, May 19, 2022

12:00-1:30 p.m. CST

mnallianceoncrime.org/events/





Online Survey & Listening Session

for Trauma Responsive Mental Health Services

The Minnesota Alliance on Crime (MAC) is working with the Minnesota Center for Psychology (MCP) to understand the types of gaps victims/survivors of general crime experience when accessing trauma-responsive mental health services. If you provide direct services or support victims of crime, we want to hear from you!

This survey was the first part of the listening session process. The second is MAC hosting a listening session to further understand advocate's views and the needs of victims/survivors of crime in accessing trauma-responsive mental health services on:



May 11, 2022 from 12:00-1:00 p.m.

Register Below



mnallianceoncrime.org/events



Please register for the Zoom listening session:

<https://bit.ly/3xuSB35>



Fundamentals in Victim Services

**An online training for newer
crime victim services professionals**

**June 22-24, 2022
8 am to 4:30 pm**



MINNESOTA ALLIANCE ON CRIME

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Register for Fundamentals in Victim Services Here.

**if you plan to attend the Fundamentals training and you are a part of the Southern Region of MAC members, please feel free to register for another regional meeting that doesn't conflict with this training.*

upcoming other trainings and webinars

The **Center for Victim Research** is offering these online podcasts in May.

- **Tell Us About It: The Role of Research in Forensic Nursing** with Julie Valentine and Nancy Downing, we cover the scope of forensic nursing as a practice, as well as the focus and importance of incorporating research and practice into the forensic nursing discipline.
- **Tell Us About It: Measuring Outcomes in Children's Advocacy**. With Kaitlin Lounsbury of the National Children's Alliance (NCA), we talk about the development and implementation of NCA's Outcome Measurement System (OMS), including the challenges of bringing the nation's 900+ CACs into the system and the value of OMS at the local, state, and national levels.
- **Tell Us About It: Rocky Mountain Victim Law Center, Part 1 & Part 2**. Emily Tofte Nesteval and Kazi Houston of the Rocky Mountain Victim Law Center share their experience incorporating research and data gathering into their planning and operations. Anne DePrince, the principal researcher for the Rocky Mountain Victim Law Center, shares her perspective on the use of research to shape and inform the Center's work, as well as her broader work with the victim services community in Denver.

Registration is now open for the **2022 Virtual Safe Harbor Conference May 3 & 4, 2022!** The 2022 Virtual Safe Harbor Conference will provide space for service providers, health and mental health professionals, survivors, law enforcement, and others to learn about and improve the Safe Harbor Network, while connecting/reconnecting with friends and colleagues from across the state who work in the anti-trafficking field. **[Learn more, preview the agenda, and register here.](#)**

The **National Mass Violence Victimization Resource Center** is hosting its second free, virtual **National Town Hall on Thursday, May 5 from 3:00 pm to 4:30 pm EST**. The topic for May's Town Hall is Mass Violence Readiness. The town hall included presenters from the USDOJ Office for Victims of Crime; OVC TTAC; the DC Mayor's Office of Victim Services & Justice Grants; the Hawai'i Crime Victim Compensation Commission; and of course, from the NMVVR! **[Click here for information and to register.](#)**

Hennepin County Attorney 101. Hosted by the MNJRC & Minneapolis Foundation Thursday, May 5th 6pm - 8pm CST Join us for an educational forum on the role of the Hennepin County Attorney. The MNJRC is a 501(c)3 nonprofit and does not endorse candidates. Our goal is to equip Hennepin County residents with the information they need to support who they think is the best leader for this office. **[Click HERE for more details.](#)**

The National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) invites you to attend a Congressional Briefing to discuss the findings of our 16th Annual Domestic Violence Counts Report. The briefing is scheduled for **Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 2:00 PM ET** and hosted on **Facebook Live**. The briefing will feature a discussion moderated by me, NNEDV President & CEO Deborah J. Vagins, with panelists Alexandra Appleton (Domestic Violence Survivor), Antonia Drew Vann (Director and Founder, The Asha Project), and Jonathan Yglesias (Policy Director, Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance) and will be held in cooperation with U.S. Senator Bob Casey (D-PA), U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK), U.S. Representative Lucy McBath (D-GA) and U.S. Representative John Katko (R-NY).

Violence prevention is essential work, but as preventionists, we often get isolated from one another. In an effort to connect us all in our shared mission of ending violence before it starts, **Women's Advocates** is offering monthly lunch hour connection events for those working in prevention, education, and outreach. Hosted the **second Wednesday of every month from 1:30-2:30pm, starting May 11th!** **[Direct Zoom meeting link for every huddle.](#)** Registration is not required but you can email **outreach@wadvocates.org** with the Subject line "Preventionist Huddle" to be sent a recurring calendar invite with the Zoom link.

Women's Advocates 30-Minute Trauma Recovery Chair Yoga with Brenda Hershey. These 30-minute sessions are for all levels of mobility, and provide the same benefits and "do no harm" practice as our on the mat yoga class. Similarly, we emphasize four key themes: Presence, Empowerment, Resilience, and Mindfulness. This class can be taught in just about any comfortable and quiet space. All you need is a chair and an open mind! **[More information and Registration.](#)**

Early Bird registration is still available for the **2022 National Training Institute. Register before May 14th to save \$100.** Each year, the National Training Institute highlights innovative work in victim services, justice, and public safety. **The 2022 National Training Institute, taking place October 6-8 in St. Louis, Missouri,** will include a variety of

plenaries, training workshops, and networking opportunities. [More information and Registration.](#)

Managers & Advocates at DV/SA Programs and other community-based victim service providers. **June 2, 2022 11 am -12:30 pm PST The Safety Net Project at the National Network to End Domestic Violence** is excited to announce a webinar focusing on **Core Confidentiality concepts for victim service providers**. Confidentiality is an essential part of community-based, survivor-centered victim services. But sometimes, we can start to lose track of what we really mean by “confidentiality” and what its actual purpose really is. We might start to obsess over whether we are following the rule correctly or feel paralyzed by fear of doing it wrong. There is a simple remedy to this paralysis: focus on facilitating survivor choice. **Thursday, June 2, 2022 from 2-3:30 pm Eastern. [Register here](#)**

National Crime Victim Law Institute's Crime Victim Law Conference is the only national conference on rights enforcement in the country. Professionals serving victims gather to learn, share best practices, and plan the future of victims' rights. [More information and registration.](#)

Could your nonprofit workplace be more inclusive? MCN is offering **Creating and Sustaining Inclusive Nonprofits**, a series of three two-hour workshops that will each center on a specific topic connected to increasing diversity and inclusion in the nonprofit sector: social class and socioeconomic status, LGBTQIA identities, and sizeism. Throughout each workshop, Kaitlin Desselle and Anne Phibbs of Strategic Diversity Initiatives will provide insights to immediately apply learning to your work situation and is help you develop a comprehensive and ongoing understanding of inclusive leadership, at any level, within your nonprofit. **Topics for this three-part workshop are:**

- **June 7:** Hierarchies all Around: Addressing Class, Socioeconomic Status (SES), and Rank
- **July 19:** Behind the Letters: Understanding LGBTQIA Identities
- **August 23:** Taking Up Space: The Roots and Implications of Sizeism

[Registration and more information here.](#)

MN Elder Justice Center presents **The 16th Annual Minnesota World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Conference** to be held at the Earle Brown Heritage Center in Brooklyn Center, MN, June 15th, 2022. This year we will explore themes of innovation in the field of elder justice. **[Cost is free but registration is required, and space is limited.](#)**

The Safety Net Project at the National Network to End Domestic Violence is going virtual again for our annual Technology Summit. **Tuesday, July 19 – Thursday, July 21** The agenda will mostly consist of 2-3 one-hour sessions each. [More information and registration here.](#)

Social Justice: Uncorked. You're invited to Social Justice: Uncorked, [Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services](#) annual wine tasting fundraising gala! This year's event will be held on **Thursday, August 4th from 5:30pm to 8:30pm** at The Depot in downtown Minneapolis. [You can purchase tickets here.](#)

legislative updates

MAC Legislative Updates: These are the bills we are still working to pass.

- **[HF 861:](#)**
 - **Description:** All six statewide coalitions requested an increase to the base level CVS grant funding that the state appropriates to the Office of Justice.
 - **Current status:** Currently there is no increase in Crime Victim Services Funding language included in SF2673 (the senate omnibus bill).
- **[HF3055](#)**
 - **Description:** Missing and murdered Indigenous relative's information reward fund established, and money appropriated.
 - **Current status:** Currently there is no language or money allocated in SF2673 (the senate omnibus bill).
- **[HF2849](#)**

- **Description:** Office for Missing and Murdered Black Woman and Girls created and money appropriated.
- **Current status:** Currently there is no language or money allocated in SF2673 (the senate omnibus bill).

- **HF1151**

- **Description:** Allows for automatic expungement of certain petty misdemeanor, misdemeanor, and gross misdemeanor offenses. All DV and CSC are excluded, however, disorderly conduct is not excluded. There is a 2-year waiting period for misdemeanors and 4-year waiting period for gross-misdemeanors, and the defendant must complete terms of probation and not be charged with any crime during the waiting period
- **Current status:** HF1151 is included in SF2673 (the senate omnibus bill).

*Not sure who your legislators are? **Click here to find out.** Once conferees have been assigned to the Public Safety Policy and Finance Conference Committee, we will send an email with contact information for each of the committee members.*

EVVA burglary bot pilot testing



Enhanced Virtual Victim Assistant

A Pilot Program for Minnesota Law Enforcement

mnallianceoncrime.org

RTI International and the **Minnesota Alliance on Crime (MAC)**, with support from the **Minnesota Chiefs of Police Association** and the **Minnesota Sheriff's Association**, are offering law enforcement agencies in Minnesota the opportunity to be part of a pilot test of a new technology focused on providing greater support to burglary victims while simultaneously reducing the resource burden on law enforcement agencies.

RTI's Enhanced Virtual Victim Assistant (EVVA) chatbot improves the ability of law enforcement to respond to the needs of victims of burglary and refer them to community-based support and services without an additional drain on limited resources. EVVA was developed and rigorously tested by a team of data scientists to ensure it will deliver high quality service to burglary victims.

We know that chatbots have limitations in terms of their ability to deal with complex problems or read emotions and can create frustrations when they are not able to fully address users' needs or questions. RTI and MAC developed EVVA with mindfulness towards these potential limitations, as well as the need to be trauma-informed in the approach to assisting victims.

For more information about this pilot test or if your law enforcement agency is interested in participating in this pilot test (RTI will be launching a video demonstration of EVVA and hosting a webinar later in May) please email kim@mnallianceoncrime.org.

online regional meetings, june 2022



Online Regional Meetings for MAC Members in June

Northern Region: June 14, 9 am to 11 am*

Central Region: June 16, 1 pm to 3 pm*

Metro Region: June 21, 1 pm to 3 pm*

Southern Region: June 23, 9 am to 11 am*

*If you cannot make your region's date/time -- Please consider registering for another region!

These meetings will take place **ONLINE** to ensure
accessibility for all of our member programs.
ALL members welcome!

Register here: mnallianceoncrime.org/regionalmeetings2022

Register Now for Your Summer Online Regional Meeting:

Northern Minnesota Regional Meeting

Tuesday, June 14: 9 am to 11 am

Central Minnesota Regional Meeting

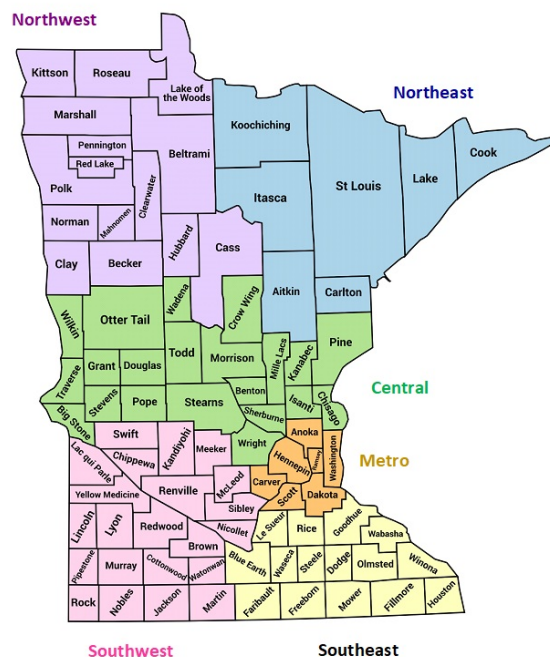
Thursday, June 16: 1 pm to 3 pm

Metro Regional Meeting

Tuesday, June 21: 1:00 to 4:00 pm

Southern Minnesota Regional Meeting*

Thursday June 23: 9 am to 11 pm



MAC is committed to making these meetings accessible to all members. If you cannot attend your region's date/time, please feel free to register for one that works for you!

If you have any questions, go
to mnallianceoncrime.org/regionalmeetings2022/ or contact [Kim](#).

national crime victim rights week:
April 24-30, 2022

We just wanted to congratulate the Crime Victims' Rights Trivia winners and the Crime Victim Justice Unit at the Office of Justice Programs for taking a little time to have fun, learn about this year's Crime Victims' Rights week and why it is important, and win prizes!

You are all winner's for supporting victims/survivors in all that you do!

Stand(point) and Deliver gave everyone a run for their money with a tie-breaking final answer but everyone who played is a winner in our eyes!

Thanks again for all that you do!



MAC and CVJU
Want to thank you for participating in Lunchtime Trivia!



Thanks again for making learning about Crime Victims' Rights Week Fun!

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.

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

To donate: <https://www.givemn.org/organization/Mnalliance>

mnallianceoncrime.org

