Violence Reduction Network (VRN) Webinar: Resources for Victim Service Providers Involved in VRN

Date: October 20, 2015  Time: 2:30 to 3:30 p.m., Eastern Time

Effective training is essential to providing quality victim services. Victims and survivors interact with various criminal justice system professionals at different points in the criminal justice process and may have evolving needs specific to victimization and population types. The Office for Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center (OVC TTAC) offers a wide variety of support services that can be tailored to meet the needs of individual VRN sites. Join this Webinar to learn how OVC TTAC is supporting the Wilmington VRN site with training and technical assistance and how you can request training and technical assistance for victim service providers and allied professionals in your site.

During this Webinar, participants will hear from Stephanie Hamilton and John Skinner from the Wilmington, Delaware, site, who collaborated with OVC TTAC TTA Specialist Victoria Shelton and OVC Deputy Director Kristina Rose (VRN Program Office Champion to Oakland/Richmond, California) to develop a training and technical assistance plan to meet site-specific needs in Wilmington. Ms. Shelton will provide information about the types of TTA available, including online tools, customized trainings, prepared curricula, consultant referrals, and professional development scholarships, as well as the application process. The objectives of this Webinar are to:

- Identify the types of resources available to VRN sites from OVC TTAC.
- Discuss how OVC TTAC can provide support to VRN sites via a case study of assistance offered to Wilmington, Delaware.
- Describe the application process and time frames for obtaining TTA support from OVC TTAC.

There is no registration fee or cost to participate in the Webinar.

Registration Link: https://www.iir.com/Home/Event_Registration/VRN-Webinar-10202015

ABOUT THE SPEAKERS

Facilitator/Moderator—Marti Kovener, Project Director, OVC TTAC
Marti Kovener is the Project Director for the Office for Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center (OVC TTAC). She has spent her 30-year career working with local, state, and national organizations to help them better serve victims of crime; build capacity in communities, organizations, and individuals; and mobilize and engage unserved and underserved victims of crime. She loves strategic planning, training, and leadership development and has written and trained on various areas of victim services and criminal and juvenile justice, including collaboration, nonprofit and community capacity building and leadership, community and youth engagement, cultural competency and inclusion, sexual assault, crisis response, and developing innovative practice models and data-driven approaches.

Presenter—Stephanie Hamilton, Victim Services Coordinator, Wilmington Police Department
Stephanie Hamilton is currently the Victim Services Coordinator of the Wilmington Police Department (PD), Victim Services Unit. She has been at the Wilmington PD since 2002, first serving as the Domestic Violence Coordinator and now as the Unit Supervisor. Ms. Hamilton provides supervision to the unit as well as direct services to victims of crime in the city of Wilmington. Much of her work focuses on working with survivors of homicide, sexual assault, and other violent crimes. She participates in regional task forces and creates training for police personnel and the public on serving victims of crime. Ms. Hamilton also works as a therapist at SOAR Inc., working with survivors of sexual abuse, primarily based in the prison system. She is a Licensed Professional Counselor of Mental Health and a Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence Certified Domestic Violence Specialist. Ms. Hamilton is the chair of the Delaware Victims’ Rights Task Force, which is a collective of service providers whose mission is to improve and expand services to victims of crime, increase public awareness of victim rights and services, and ensure equitable treatment of victims and witnesses by the criminal justice system. In 2008, she was appointed by Governor Minner to the VAWA Implementation Committee, whose
purpose is to ensure the appropriate use of federal funds received under the Violence Against Women Act for the state of Delaware. Ms. Hamilton was awarded the Jefferson Award for Public Service, City of Wilmington, in 2006 and the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Spirit of Advocacy Award in 2012 for her advocacy for and work with survivors of domestic violence.

**Presenter—Victoria Shelton, Regional TTA Specialist, OVC TTAC**

Victoria Shelton is a Regional Training and Technical Assistance Specialist for the Office for Victims of Crime Training and Technical Assistance Center (OVC TTAC). Ms. Shelton has over 20 years of professional experience in victim services, including program management, staff development, crisis response deployment, and training/technical assistance. Ms. Shelton’s commitment to improving responses to victims of crime began with her work as a legal and medical advocate at a local domestic violence agency. As Director of Victim Services at the Pennsylvania Office of the Victim Advocate, she facilitated systems advocacy and provided technical assistance to criminal justice agencies to support an improved system response to the needs and concerns of crime victims. She has developed training programs, materials, and workshops to present at local-, state-, and national-level conferences to victim advocates, criminal justice, and other allied professionals on victims’ rights, the provision of client-centered services, and issues of crisis, trauma, and victimization.

**Presenter—John Skinner, Strategic Site Liaison, VRN Wilmington Site**

John Skinner is a full-time Associate Graduate Lecturer in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology, and Criminal Justice at Towson University, where he specializes in policy and evidence-based policing strategies. In addition to his position at the university, Mr. Skinner works with the U.S. Department of Justice’s Violence Reduction Network as a subject-matter expert and Strategic Site Liaison to the city of Wilmington. Mr. Skinner is the former Deputy Police Commissioner and a 23-year veteran of the Baltimore Police Department. As Deputy Police Commissioner, he was responsible for the day-to-day management and oversight of the agency’s Operations Bureau, which included all aspects of the department’s criminal investigations, tactical, and patrol operations. During his tenure, Mr. Skinner implemented operational crime reduction strategies that led to historic 30-year lows in overall violent crime and homicides within Baltimore. Mr. Skinner was awarded Police Officer of the Year in 2010 by the National Alliance of Mental Illness for his collaborative partnerships in training police officers. In 2009, he was recognized by the U.S. Department of Justice for the development of the Patrol Response Survey, an evaluation program that measures the community’s perception of police performance. Mr. Skinner was also named “Baltimorean of the Year” by Baltimore magazine for the creation of the Safe Zone Project, a nationally recognized community stabilization strategy.

**Presenter—Kristina Rose, Deputy Director, OVC; Program Office Champion, VRN Oakland/Richmond, California, Site**

Kristina Rose joined the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC) in September 2013 to serve as the Deputy Director. Prior to this, Ms. Rose was the Deputy Director for the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), the U.S. Department of Justice’s (DOJ) research and evaluation arm. Ms. Rose also served as NIJ’s Acting Director from 2009 to 2010. Prior to joining NIJ, Ms. Rose was the Chief of Staff at the Department’s Office on Violence Against Women. While with DOJ, Ms. Rose has spearheaded numerous large-scale projects in the area of violence against women, including the first national survey on stalking, the creation of a “virtual practicum” on sexual assault forensic exams, and an action research study on untested sexual assault kits. She is currently engaged in the creation of the nation’s first telemedicine center focused exclusively on providing sexual assault forensic exam assistance to medical providers in underserved areas. In 2012, Ms. Rose was selected for DOJ’s Leadership Excellence and Achievement Program (LEAP) and recently completed an eight-month developmental assignment as a victim advocate in the Victim/Witness Assistance Unit at the U.S. Attorney’s Office in Washington, DC. Ms. Rose currently serves on the Sexual Assault Advisory Council for the U.S. Peace Corps and the White House Task Force to Protect Students From Sexual Assault.