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NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Senate Holds Hearing on Bulletproof Vest Program:

The Senate Judiciary Committee held a hearing on the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Program (BVPBG). The goal of the program, started in 1999, is to increase the number of law enforcement officers wearing body armor by providing grants to state or local law enforcement agencies.

The program expires in September 2012 and needs to be reauthorized. The Committee heard testimony from Chief Michael Schirling for the Burlington Police Department, David Maurer, director of the Government Accountability Office Homeland Security and Justice Team, and Chuck Canterbury, national president of the Fraternal Order of Police. Canterbury and Schirling testified about the significant rise in violence against police officers in recent years. For instance, in 2010, 177 federal, state, and law enforcement officers were killed in action. They said this rise in violence against police officers coincides with increasing unemployment rates among law enforcement personnel. In addition, Maurer presented the findings of a recent GAO report on administration of the grant program.

Senator Leahy announced his plans to introduce legislation to reauthorize the program.

Source: NCJA

Despite Ohio Deaths, School Homicides in 2009-10 Lowest Since 1992:

Despite the recent deaths of Chardon, Oh., high school students in a shooting by another student, in the 13 years since Colorado's Columbine massacre pushed school shootings to the front of media headlines and many parents' concerns, the trends are improving in terms of student-initiated shootings, says the Christian Science Monitor. One possible reason: heightened awareness of the problem on the part of parents, teachers, and fellow students, who may be more willing to act on early warning signs. "After the mid-90s when this became a major issue, I think now people have seen what can happen when you don't report things and aren't coming forward, and there's a lot more awareness," says Kevin Quinn of the National Association of School Resource Officers. "I don't think kids are as apt to keep things quiet anymore." In February, the federal government released an Indicators of School Crime and Safety report, which puts school-related violent deaths at an all-time low since it began tracking such deaths in 1992. It reported 33 such deaths for the 2009-10 school year, including 25 homicides – also the lowest since 1992 (tied with the 2002-03 school year). The 2006-07 school year had the highest number of deaths, with 63.

[Continue reading...](#)

Teen Dating Violence Often Part of a Pattern of Victimization:

Teen victims of dating violence are overwhelmingly more likely to have been victims of other forms of violence,

such as sexual violence and child abuse, according to new research from the University of New Hampshire Crimes Against Children Research Center.

The research from a national sample of more than 1,600 teens shows teen dating violence is typically part of a pattern of victimizations rather than a stand-alone phenomenon.

"We thought there would be overlap but had no idea that all dating violence victims are dealing with other forms of violence and abuse as well," said UNH Crimes against Children Research Center research associate Sherry Hamby, lead author of the study and research associate professor at Sewanee, the University of the South.

The new research is published online in the article "Teen Dating Violence: Co-Occurrence With Other Victimization in the National Survey of Children's Exposure to Violence" by the American Psychological Association in a special issue of the journal "Psychology of Violence."

Sexual violence and child abuse were the most common other victimizations among teen dating violence victims. A distressingly high percentage — 60 percent — also had experienced at least one type of sexual victimization, with the most common types being verbally sexually harassed (30 percent), flashed by a peer (25 percent), and sexually assaulted (20 percent).

TRAINING/TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Free Grant Writing Seminars: OCJS is hosting free Grant Writing seminars in 2012. OCJS's grant trainings provide an overview of identifying grant sources, analyzing program objectives, creating a budget, seeking letters of support, and writing proposals. Federal and state grants available to criminal justice professionals are discussed. Attendees also receive the

OCJS publication, *Grant Writing: Identifying and Applying for Funding in a Competitive Market*. Grant writing 101 trainings take place on the following dates: **March 12, April 11, May 2, June 7, September 13 and November 8.**

All trainings are held from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the Ohio Department of Public

Safety's Motorcycle Classroom, located at 1970 W. Broad St., Columbus, on the first floor. To download and print a training registration form, visit: http://publicsafety.ohio.gov/links/ocjs_TrainingForm.pdf

Register here: is <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/OCJSregister>

TRAINING/TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CON'T.

Tuition-Free Human Trafficking Broadcast: St. Petersburg College's Center for Public Safety Innovation (CPSI) has scheduled a tuition-free satellite and web broadcast entitled "Human Trafficking – Slavery in the 21st Century." **This broadcast is scheduled from 2:00 – 3:00 Eastern Time on March 15.** Most Americans today equate slavery as an issue of the American past. The unfortunate reality is slavery not only exists in the 21st Century, but is a \$31-billion industry worldwide, second only to the international drug trade. The U.S. is no exception and the problem continues to challenge for answers.

Join us as we bring together a panel of experts who will discuss the national and international ramifications of this horrendous crime as well as what we all can do in the fight against human trafficking. Register today for this free program!

To register: http://terrorism.spcollege.edu/Broadcasts/BJA_HT_Broadcast.aspx

For more information on human trafficking, including publications, outreach and training events, please visit the Center for Human Trafficking Awareness website: <http://haltht.spcollege.edu>.

Two Days in May Conference - Let No Victims Stand Alone: Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine's "Two Days in May" Promising Practice and Special Achievement Awards will be presented at the Annual Awards Luncheon at the 2012 TWO DAYS IN MAY Conference on Victim Assistance on May 11. The Promising Practice and Special Achievement Awards are designed to recognize the outstanding services of individuals and/or organizations empowering victims of crime in Ohio. Individuals and/or

programs of any public or private nonprofit organization, whose mission is to assist, protect, or empower victims of crime, are eligible for consideration. **The deadline for nominations is March 15.**

Click on this link to submit your nomination: <http://ohioattorneygeneral.gov/Services/Victims/Two-Days-in-May/>

Hiring Our Heroes: Join us March 19 and 20 for a series of training workshops on March 19 and a hiring fair on March 20 for veteran job seekers, active duty military members, Guard and Reserve members and eligible spouses at the Franklin County Veterans Memorial, 300 West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio.

This event will feature:
March 19 - MOTIVATIONAL GUIDANCE FOR THE VETERAN JOB SEEKER and PREPARATION AND TRAINING FOR EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES: Motivational discussions with renowned leaders to help our transitioning Veterans best acknowledge and leverage their military skills and experiences and a comprehensive workshop series to provide our Veterans with additional skills for a positive impact with hiring organizations. Activities will include resume building, interview skills, and leveraging Veterans benefits toward gainful employment. Please go here to register for the March 19 session: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/hiringourheroescolumbusworkshops>

March 20 - HIRING OUR HEROES JOB FAIR: A one-of-a-kind FREE hiring fair for both employers and job seekers. Employers must pre-register for free [here](#). Job seekers are encouraged to register for free [here](#). This registration is

separate from the registration for the 19th above. **Walk-in jobs seekers are allowed.**

Where: Franklin County Veteran's Memorial, 300 West Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio

This Hero2Hired (H2H) sponsored hiring event is being conducted by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, Leadership Columbus, the Veterans Services Commission, the Battelle Memorial Institute, Hero2Hired (H2H), the Department of Labor Veterans Employment and Training (DOL VETS), the Ohio Committee of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), NBC News, and other local chambers.

Organizing the Work of Sexual Assault Response Teams (SARTs) - A Webinar Presentation: The 8-Step Protocol Development Cycle is a long-term strategy for systematically improving responses to sexual assault victims/survivors at the local level. This approach is designed for use by multi-disciplinary teams that are seeking ways to coordinate and continuously improve their response to sexual assault. This session will provide an overview of each of the eight steps of the Cycle, compare it to other system change efforts, and discuss how this approach might enhance your team's current efforts.

Presenter: Leah Lutz, [Sexual Violence Justice Institute](#) at the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault.

When: Thursday March 22 from 2 - 3 p.m.
Central Time

Please [click here](#) to register now.

GRANT FUNDING

Bureau of Justice Assistance Releases Three 2nd Chance Act Solicitations: The U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) released solicitations for Second Chance Act grant programs that will provide funding to state and local governments and federally recognized Indian tribes. **Applications are due April 24, 2012.**

Adult Planning and Demonstration grants will provide funding to help jurisdictions plan and implement programs and strategies to reduce recidivism and ensure safe and successful reentry of adults released from prisons and jails back to the community.

To download this solicitation, click [here](#). To watch a 2011 webinar that was held for applicants responding to this same solicitation, click [here](#). To download a PDF of the PowerPoint presentation from the 2011 webinar, click [here](#).

Adult Co-Occurring Substance Abuse and

Mental Health Disorders grants will provide funding to establish or enhance residential dual diagnosis substance abuse and mental health disorder treatment programs in correctional facilities that include *aftercare and recovery supportive services*.

To download this solicitation, click [here](#). To watch a 2011 webinar that was held for applicants responding to this same solicitation, click [here](#).

To download a PDF of the PowerPoint presentation from the 2011 webinar, click [here](#).

Human Traffic Funding Opportunities: Click [FY 2012 Services for Victims of Human Trafficking \(Application Deadline: 04/17/2012\)](#)

Multiple cooperative agreements of \$200,000 to \$400,000 will be awarded to victim service organizations to provide timely, high-quality

services to victims of human trafficking as defined by the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, as amended, and to enhance interagency collaboration and coordination in the provision of services to such victims. Funding will support either a comprehensive array of services for trafficking victims in specific geographic areas or specialized mental health or legal services over larger geographic areas; as well as efforts to increase the capacity of communities to respond to victims through the development of interagency partnerships and public outreach and awareness campaigns. Those applying are strongly advised to begin the application process well in advance of the April 17 deadline.

Click [FY 2012 Enhanced Collaborative Model to Combat Human Trafficking \(Application Deadline: 03/29/2012\)](#)

GRANT FUNDING CONT.

This joint OVC and Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) program will fund Enhanced Collaborative Model Task Force sites that take a comprehensive approach to combating all forms of trafficking—sex trafficking and labor trafficking of foreign nationals and U.S. citizens (male and female, adults and minors). BJA and OVC anticipate that they will make up to 12 awards (6 law enforcement awards and 6 victim service provider awards). This funding opportunity requires two applications (one from a state, local, or tribal law enforcement agency and one from a victim service provider) from each task force location. Applicants must work collaboratively with one another to produce their applications. Each award will be monitored by the appropriate DOJ component (BJA for awards to law enforcement agencies and OVC for awards to victim service organizations). Those applying are urged to begin the application process well in advance of the March 29 deadline.

Other New OVC Funding Opportunities: Click [FY 2012 Training and Technical Assistance To Improve Understanding and Application of Research and Evaluation in Victim Services](#) (Application Deadline: 04/25/2012)

In response to concerns voiced by victim service providers, OVC will support a national initiative to assist the field in becoming more educated consumers of, and contributors to, research and evaluation that can lead to more effective and cost-efficient services for victims of crime. To achieve this goal, OVC will award one cooperative agreement of up to \$250,000 for the first 12-month project period to develop and implement national-scope training and technical assistance that can be delivered through interactive online access. OVC encourages partnerships between researchers and victim service professionals throughout the project to ensure that the products are relevant, accessible, and understandable. Those applying are strongly advised to begin the application process well in advance of the April 25, 2012, deadline.

Click [FY 2012 Wraparound Victim Legal Assistance Network Demonstration Project \(Application Deadline: 04/19/2012\)](#)

OVC will fund up to six sites to develop collaborative models for comprehensive, wraparound, pro bono, legal assistance networks to meet the range of legal needs of crime victims. This is a 4-year project, with sites receiving up to \$400,000 for the first 15-month phase, with the potential of continuation

funding for 3 additional years. Applicants are limited to private nonprofit organizations; faith-based and community-based organizations; colleges and universities; public agencies; and tribal governments and organizations that can demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the range of legal assistance needs of crime victims, as well as the capacity to partner with other organizations and key stakeholders to deliver comprehensive, seamless legal services to victims. Those applying are urged to begin the application process well in advance of the April 19 deadline.

Violence Against Women Grant:

The Office on Violence Against Women is pleased to announce that the following **Fiscal Year 2012 Solicitations are now available**. The Grants.gov registration deadline is March 15. It is strongly encouraged that applicants begin the registration process well in advance of the deadline. For more information on the process of registering with Grants.gov, please see the Reference Guide at <http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov/docs/resource-guidebook.pdf>

RESEARCH & EVALUATION

On February 22, the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) and the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) released the annual report *Indicators of School Crime and Safety, 2011*. This document examines crime occurring in school on the way to and from school, as well as safety measures that are being taken by schools. Data come from the National Crime Victimization Survey, the School Crime Supplement to the National Crime Victimization Survey, the Youth Risk Behavior Survey, the School Survey on Crime and Safety, and the School and Staffing Survey.

Key findings of the report, as identified by BJS and NCES:

Violent deaths—Of the 33 student, staff, and nonstudent school-associated violent deaths occurring between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010, 25 were homicides, 5 were suicides, and 3 were legal interventions. During this time period, there were 17 homicides and one suicide of school-age youth (ages 5-18) at school.

Crime victimization rate—The total crime victimization rate of students ages 12-18 at school declined from 43 victimizations per 1,000 students in 2009 to 32 victimizations per 1,000 students in 2010.

Weapons—Eight percent of students in grades 9-12 reported being threatened or injured with a weapon such as a gun, knife, or club, on school property in 2009. This percentage was higher

for male students (10 percent) than for female students (5 percent).

Gang activity—Sixteen percent of public schools reported that gang activities had occurred during the 2009-2010 school year. This percentage decreased from 20 percent in the 2007-2008 school year.

Physical fighting—In 2009, about 31 percent of students in grades 9-12 reported they had been in a physical fight at least one time during the previous 12 months anywhere, and 11 percent said they had been in a fight on school property during the previous 12 months.

Bullying—There appeared to be an inverse relationship between the percentage of kids reporting being bullied at school and their grade level. Specifically, the following percentage of kids in each grade reported being bullied at school:

6th grade: 39 percent
7th grade: 33 percent
8th grade: 32 percent
9th grade: 28 percent
10th grade: 27 percent
11th grade: 21 percent
12th grade: 20 percent

Forms of bullying varied to some degree by gender. A higher percentage of females than males reported being the subject of rumors, whereas a higher percentage of males reported being pushed, shoved, tripped, or spit upon. About six percent of students reported having been cyber-bullied, with

a greater percentage of females than males being subject to harassing text messages.

School safety and security measures—Between the 1999-2000 and 2009-2010 school year, there was an increase in the percentage of public schools reporting use of the following safety and security measures:

- Controlled access to the building during school hours (from 75 percent to 92 percent)
- Controlled access to school grounds during school hours (from 34 percent to 46 percent)
- Faculty required to wear badges or picture IDs (from 25 percent to 63 percent)
- Use of security cameras to monitor the school (from 19 to 61 percent)
- Telephones in most classrooms (from 45 percent to 74 percent)
- School uniform requirement (from 12 percent to 19 percent)

In addition, more schools reported using an electronic notification system for a school-wide emergency (63 percent) and a structured, anonymous threat reporting system (36 percent) during the 2009-2010 school year than during the previous school year.

Click [here](#) to see the full report.

EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICES

How to Select an Evidence-based

Practice: The process of selecting and implementing an evidence-based practice takes careful thought and planning, with many factors to consider such as capacity, time, and resource allocation. The ideal implementation plan would strive to achieve perfect fidelity to the model, but given the economic challenges of most local communities, an important question becomes is there a way to modify the model to fit the situation and still achieve successful outcomes?

The evidence-based practice selected should be based on the desired achiev-

able outcomes, with consideration for the client's, staff and organizational needs. Stakeholder input on what outcomes should be targeted should be a key factor driving the process. It is critical that stakeholders, including consumers, families, and community members, participate and advise in all aspects of the process, including literature reviews, decision-making, design, implementation and adjustments as the process evolves.

Review the literature (both published and not) and talk with "experts" to find out what practices are out there and what the evidence base is for achieving

that outcome. It is not necessary to "reinvent the wheel." Programs started from scratch should be reserved only for situations when existing models will not help achieve the desired outcomes. An appropriate model should only be selected after you are familiar with a variety of evidence-based practices, what outcomes each is intended to achieve, and what resources are needed for each. Once the practice is selected then implementation can begin. The next article in this 5 part series will discuss implementation of evidence-based practices.

LEGISLATIVE CORNER

In light of the recent shooting incident in Chardon, Ohio, I thought that a synopsis of this recent U.S. Supreme Court decision was apropos.

RYBURN, et al. v. HUFF, et al. 565 U.S (2012)

This matter came before the Court on a petition for writ of certiorari to the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit.

Held: Petition granted; judgment of the Ninth Circuit reversed and case remanded for entry of judgment in favor of petitioners.

Facts: Petitioners were officers with the Burbank Police Department who responded to a call from a local high school. Upon arrival, the school principal informed the officers that a student, Vincent Huff, was rumored to have written a letter in which he threatened to "shoot up" the school. As the rumors circulated, many parents decided to keep their children at home. The principal, concerned about the safety of her students, asked the officers to investigate. The officers agreed, and began interviewing school personnel and students.

During those interviews, the officers learned that young Huff had been absent from school for two days, and had been subject to bullying from classmates on a frequent basis. One of Huff's classmates believed Huff

could carry out the alleged threats. Petitioners had received specialized training in the area of targeted school violence and recognized these as characteristics of perpetrators of school shootings. Consequently, the officers decided to interview Vincent Huff.

Upon arrival at the Huff residence, officers knocked and announced their presence. There was no response. They then called the residence phone, but again received no response. A call to Mrs. Huff's cell phone resulted in both the mother and child's appearance on the front porch of the home. The petitioners advised that they were there to investigate the purported threats, and asked Mrs. Huff if there were any guns in the home. She responded by "immediately running into the house." The officers, believing this to be indicative of potential violence and a risk to officer safety followed Mrs. Huff into the home. The officers stayed in the home for a few minutes. They concluded that the rumors of a potential shooting were false, and reported the results of their investigation to the school principal.

Legal Proceedings: The Huff's brought suit against the officers in federal court, alleging that the officers violated their Fourth Amendment rights by entering the home without a warrant. The trial court determined that the officers were entitled to qualified immunity, and rendered judgment

in favor of the police. That court indicated that, based on all the information given to the officers and Mrs. Huff's behavior, 'reasonable officers could have believed "that there could be weapons inside the house, and that family members or the officers themselves were in danger.'" The Ninth Circuit reversed the district court decision, indicating that the officers were not entitled to qualified immunity, and that there was no reasonable basis for the officers to believe that there was a threat of imminent harm that would have allowed the officers to enter the residence without a warrant.

The U.S. Supreme Court found that, based upon all the facts, reasonable officers could have concluded that there was an "objectively reasonable basis for fearing that violence was imminent." In short, "reasonable police officers in petitioners' position could have come to the conclusion that the Fourth Amendment permitted them to enter the Huff residence." The Court noted that "police officers are often forced to make split-second judgments – in circumstances that are tense, uncertain, and rapidly evolving;" and that "reasonableness" should be judged from the reasonable officer's perspective, not judicial hindsight.

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