

Maximizing Communication And Awareness

VICTIMS' RIGHTS
Fulfill the Promise
National Crime Victims' Rights Week
April 6-12, 2003
Fulfill the Promise

SAMPLE SPEECH

The sample speech reflects the 2003 NCVRW theme and offers a broad national perspective about the current status of victims' rights and services. It should be personalized to reflect local issues and concerns, as well as to educate the public about victims' rights and services available in the community and state in which the speech is delivered. Potential audiences for NCVRW speeches include: civic and service organizations; allied professional groups; schools, colleges and universities (classes, general assemblies, and student/faculty organizations); criminal and juvenile justice and victims' rights conferences; and inter-faith institutions.

NOTABLE QUOTABLES

This Resource Guide contains a variety of quotations that address the NCVRW theme and other inspirational topics relevant to victims' rights and victim justice. The notable quotations can be utilized in speeches, brochures and all victim and public outreach publications and activities sponsored during NCVRW and throughout the year.

SAMPLE SERMON

Support from inter-faith communities for NCVRW can greatly enhance victim and public outreach efforts. Many inter-faith leaders are willing to incorporate messages relevant to victims' rights and services in order to commemorate NCVRW. This year's sample sermon reflects the perspective of various faiths, and was written by Reverend Richard Lord and Janice Harris Lord of Arlington, Texas.

Victim service providers should contact religious leaders at least four weeks prior to NCVRW to determine if they are willing to address crime victims' rights and needs in their sermons or remarks to their congregations throughout the week.

SAMPLE PROCLAMATION

This year, hundreds of state and local officials and agencies will issue proclamations or resolutions that officially proclaim the week of April 6-12, 2003 to be "(State/Local) Crime Victims' Rights Week." This sample proclamation can be offered to such officials and entities as a foundation upon which to draft an official proclamation that is specific to each jurisdiction's needs. Data from the statistical overviews included in this Resource Guide and/or jurisdiction-specific data can be used to tailor the sample proclamation to an individual organization, jurisdiction or state. Victim advocates should request multiple copies of any proclamations issued that can be framed for the offices of the many organizations that co-sponsor 2003 NCVRW activities.

TWENTY TIPS FOR COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

Twenty creative ideas are included that tie into this year's theme, "Victims' Rights: Fulfill the Promise." Many ideas were generated from victim assistance programs and collaborative initiatives to commemorate NCVRW in past years. These suggestions can be implemented as is, or tailored to fit the particular needs or style of your organization, agency or jurisdiction. It is important to involve as many individuals and organizations in your community as possible in your NCVRW public awareness activities and commemorative events.

COMMEMORATIVE CALENDAR

The commemorative calendar outlines events held throughout the year for crime victims and allied professionals. Contact information for the lead organizations for each event is provided. In many instances, the organizations release public awareness materials specific to the event.

Sample Speech

I am delighted to join you today to celebrate the 23rd annual commemoration of National Crime Victims' Rights Week. It is our special time to honor those who bring honor to victims; to pay tribute to our many accomplishments as a profession over the past 31 years; and to remember the *very reason* that victim assistance and allied programs exist: that is, to provide support and services to victims of crime.

Indeed, we have much to celebrate, as the field of victim assistance is strong, vibrant and committed as ever to easing the suffering of those hurt by crime. There are over 10,000 community- and system-based victim assistance programs in the United States today that help victims in our nation, as well as American citizens who are victimized abroad. Over 32,000 federal and state laws are on the books today that define and protect victims' rights. But we also face many challenges, today and in the future, that will require even greater doses of courage, of compassion, and of commitment to justice for *all* people who are hurt by crime.

The theme of this year's National Crime Victims' Rights Week – "Victims' Rights: Fulfill the Promise" – encourages us to consider not only what we *can* promise to victims of crime, but also what we *can't* due to a lack of policies, programs and resources that are needed to adequately address the wide range of victims' needs. So today, what *can* we promise victims to help them cope with the aftermath of crime? Without a doubt, we *can* promise:

- To treat them with compassion and dignity.
- To help them identify and meet their most important needs related to their physical, emotional, financial and spiritual losses.
- To provide them with information about their statutory and constitutional rights, as well as advocacy to help them implement those rights.

This is what victim assistance is *all* about. And you *don't* have to be a victim advocate to fulfill these promises. You only need be a caring and compassionate person who recognizes when someone is suffering, and who stands ready to do *whatever* is needed to ease his or her pain. Often, crime victims' basic needs can be met by a family member, a friend, or a neighbor who takes the time to ask, "What do you need?" and "How can I help?" This simple act of reaching out can be the very key that opens a door to a victim's recovery. This act of compassion can help victims truly understand that they are *not* alone, and that *someone* is there to help them.

When I ask average folks to help us "fulfill the promise" to victims of crime, I am simply asking them to:

- Be aware that many people we know and love may be victimized, and *not* disclose to *anyone* what they are going through. Often, the best support you can offer is to just let them know you are there for them *if* and *when* they need you.
- Recognize that nobody *asks* or *deserves* to be a crime victim, and *anybody* hurt by crime has needs that *you* can help meet.
- Be aware of the many victim assistance programs available today to help victims cope with their trauma and loss, and understand their rights.
- Be aware that if *you* or *someone you know* is a crime victim, you have rights – to be notified of the status and location of the offender; to participate in criminal or juvenile justice proceedings; to be afforded protection from further harm; to have a voice in justice proceedings through a "victim impact statement"; to restitution from the offender to help you recover financial losses endured as a result of the crime; and in violent crime cases, the right to apply for victim compensation to pay for crime-related expenses and losses.
- Volunteer for and support these programs that are dedicated to helping crime victims – they rely greatly on our communities and concerned citizens to continue their valuable and vital work.

These five steps will help you help us “fulfill the promise” to victims today. Yet sage advice offered by author Anthony D’Angelo, “Promise a lot and give even more,” holds great meaning for *anyone* who is in a position to help a victim of crime today and in the future.

What would we *like* to promise victims?

We would like to promise victims that the scales of justice are *truly* balanced – that their needs and rights will receive equal consideration to the needs and rights of their accused or convicted offenders. Yet this will *not* be a reality until the U.S. Constitution is amended to include rights for victims of crime. An instructive activity is to review our nation’s founding document on a computer and “word search” for one key word: “victims.” The universal response from our nation’s Constitution will be: “‘victim’ not found.” And *until* we can actually find the word “victim” in our Constitution, we *cannot* promise equal justice to them. The victims’ rights amendment currently pending in the U.S. Congress needs your support to fulfill the ultimate promise of “equal rights for victims.”

We would like to promise victims that their statutory rights will *always* be enforced but, sadly, this is not the case. A significant focus today and in the future must address victims’ rights compliance – that is, that the more than 30,000 victims’ rights laws are implemented on a consistent and comprehensive basis. This will require a commitment to “rights, not rhetoric” – a commitment that says laws passed to provide victims with assistance, support and remuneration will be implemented on a daily basis.

We would like to promise victims that we can address their most important needs – for safety, for counseling, for information and notification, for restitution from their offenders, and for the right to participate in *all* proceedings related to their cases. This promise demands that we secure more resources – human, financial, and legislative – to meet victims’ increasing needs in a comprehensive and consistent manner.

How can we fulfill these important promises? Surely we can’t do it *alone*. But in a nation where nearly *everyone* knows someone who has been victimized, or they themselves have been touched by crime, we must pursue avenues that *engage* and *involve* everyone across our nation – in communities large and small, urban, suburban and rural, of every culture and race, religion and ethnicity – to join us in our efforts. Because when *one* person is hurt by crime, we are *all* touched by its effects.

The aftermath of the terrorist acts of September 2001 taught me an important lesson: *When Americans are faced with unspeakable acts of trauma and tragedy, they rise up in unison to confront them.* Today there is a universal bond among *everyone* who lives in this nation, who cherishes and values the freedoms and liberties that *make us Americans*. That bond – comprised of courage, and compassion and commitment – is what it will take to fulfill the promise to crime victims.... that *their* needs and interests represent *our* needs and interests, as individuals, communities and a nation as a whole. And that bond is what gives me hope that our promise to victims – who daily across our nation endure trauma and tragedy – will ultimately be fulfilled.

Thank you very much.

(Include in your speech any state or local initiatives that are relevant to the 2003 NCVRW theme: “Victims’ Rights: Fulfill the Promise.”)

Notable Quotables

THEME QUOTATIONS

“Promise a lot and give even more.”

– *Anthony D’Angelo*

“Underpromise; overdeliver.”

– *Tom Peters*

“We promise according to our hopes and perform according to our fears.”

– *Author Unknown*

“He is poor indeed who can promise nothing.”

– *Thomas Fuller*

“Study the situation thoroughly, go over in your imagination the various courses of action possible to you, and the consequences that can and may follow from each course. Pick out the course that gives the most promise and go ahead.”

– *Dr. Maxwell Maltz*

“And I’ve looked over, and I’ve seen the promised land. I may not get there with you, but I want you to know tonight that we as a people will get to the promised land.”

– *Dr. Martin Luther King*

“Never promise more than you can perform.”

– *Publilius Syrus*

“The intelligent person is one who has successfully fulfilled many accomplishments, and is yet willing to learn more.”

– *Ed Parker*

“To fulfill a dream....to be given the chance to create, is the meat and potatoes of life.”

– *Bette Davis*

“The reward of one duty is to power to fulfill another.”

– *George Eliot*

“If the promise is a very long way away, it becomes meaningless. It should be immediate.”

– *Osho Rajneesh*

“The future is not a result of choices among alternative paths offered by the present, but a place that is created – created first in mind and will, created next in activity. The future is not some place we are going to, but one we are creating. The paths are not to be found, but made, and the activity of making them, changes both the maker and the destination.”

– *John Schaar*

OTHER INSPIRATIONAL QUOTATIONS

“Courage is the ladder on which all the other virtues mount.”

-- *Clare Booth Luce*

“We must use time wisely and forever realize that the time is always ripe to do right.”

-- *Nelson Mandela*

“Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished by people who have kept on trying when there seemed to be no hope at all.”

-- *Dale Carnegie*

“I have reached a point in my life where I understand the pain and the challenges; and my attitude is one of standing up with open arms to meet them all.”

-- *Myrlie Evers*

“Everybody can be great... because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.”

-- *Martin Luther King, Jr.*

“Without a sense of caring, there can be no sense of community.”

– *Anthony J. D'Angelo*

“Do not wait for leaders; do it alone, person to person.”

– *Mother Teresa*

“Our deeds determine us, as much as we determine our deeds.”

– *George Eliot*

“My ability to survive personal crises is really a mark of the character of my people. Individually and collectively, we react with a tenacity that allows us again and again to bounce back from adversity.”

– *Chief Wilma Mankiller*

“If you refuse to accept anything but the best, you very often get it.”

– *Anonymous*

“We make a living by what we get. We make a life by what we give.”

– *Winston Churchill*

“Although the world is full of suffering, it is full also of the overcoming of it.”

– *Helen Keller*

“The only people with whom you should try to get even, are those who have helped you.”

– *May Maloo*

“Service is the rent you pay for being.”

– *Marian Wright Edelman*

“It is not fair to ask of others what you are not willing to do yourself.”

– *Eleanor Roosevelt*

Sample Sermon

Cast Out

Introduction

(Select the opening story most unique to your faith perspective)

(Story 1) The story of Hagar is sad but significant for Jews, Christians, and Muslims. Hagar, a slave, an unmarried teenage mother, and homeless, was the “other woman” who became a domestic violence victim.

Hagar’s story unfolds as Sarah, her owner, unable to conceive, decides to provide her husband, Abraham, with an heir by ordering Hagar to have sex with him and give him a child by proxy. Hagar obeys and gives birth to Ishmael. Later, Sarah becomes able to conceive and gives birth to Isaac. Suddenly, Hagar and Ishmael are embarrassing to Sarah, so she has Abraham send them out into the desert to die.

Hagar loses all hope, but God eventually sends an angel to offer her child the same promise that had been given to Sarah’s child, Isaac: “I will make a great nation of him.” Still today, Jews and Christians trace their ancestry back through Isaac to Abraham, while Muslims trace their history back through Ishmael to Abraham. All three faiths received a “divine promise” as children of Abraham.

(Story 2) The story of Patacara is sad but significant for Buddhists. Patacara was horrified at her parents’ selection of a husband for her and, rather than marry him, she ran away with her lover. While pregnant with their second child, Patacara decided to visit her parents again and introduce them to her child. On the journey, a poisonous snake bit her husband, inflicting a fatal wound. The shock of his sudden death brought on Patacara’s labor and she delivered her second baby in the forest during a raging storm. Continuing the journey, both babies drowned and died. She was so distraught that she “lost her mind.”

Wandering aimlessly, Patacara came upon the Buddha, who looked at her and said, “Sister, recover your presence of mind,” which she did. Patacara took up study of the Four Noble Truths and Eightfold Path of Buddhist practice and eventually requested ordination as a nun, a member of the first Buddhist community of women. Patacara became one of the most powerful personalities in the early Buddhist community, a skilled, revered, and charismatic teacher.

(Story 3) The story of Lalleshwari (Lalla) is sad but significant for Hindus. At the age of 12, Lalla was forced into a bitterly unhappy marriage in which she was controlled by her husband’s mother and treated harshly. Lalla eventually ran away and, in the midst of her wandering, met Siddhanath, a teacher of Kashmir Saivism, who initiated her into the faith. In time, it is said, she soon surpassed him in learning, philosophical argument, and wisdom. Legend relates that she attained the supreme state of transcending ego centeredness.

Meditation

A woman treated harshly and unjustly. So what else is new? The story begins when a person with power uses it to dominate or control a young woman. The desires of the powerless are crushed by the decisions of the powerful. We shouldn't be surprised; this is the way of nature. The strong devour the choices of the weak. It's only natural.

But the story speaks of something *unnatural* taking place. Compassion enters the story. Someone hears the cry of the victim. A new future is created which the victim could not have imagined. Her life is no longer decided for her by outward circumstances, but she is given the possibility of new life, her own promise for the future.

How do we hear this ancient story today? Do we still use people to meet our own ends, or do we listen to their cry? Do we calculate the advantage, or do we create the possibility of new life? Do we cast out or do we take in?

Most victims who survive their ordeals do so because someone else helps them create a new possibility for themselves. It doesn't just happen.

The recent book, *The Pact*, has inspired us. It is the story of three disadvantaged African-American youths from Newark who, while in high school, pledged to one another that they would become doctors. Their strength of will is astonishing, but they are clear about the persons who opened the doors for them.

In the third grade, George was intrigued by the dental instruments when taken to the dentist for the first time. The dentist took the time to explain what they were, how he planned to use them, and even told George the names and numbers of his teeth. A few minutes later he quizzed the boy. George left, determined to become a dentist.

In high school, George and his friends, Sam and Rameck, heard a representative from Seton Hall describe a program that would pay for the college expenses of minority students who wanted to become doctors. A counselor from Seton Hall urged them to apply and they did. This counselor stayed in close touch with the boys through their four years of pre-med. Grandmothers and social workers along the way also encouraged them. When George failed one of his board exams, his professor did not say "you failed," but "we failed," and continued to work with him until he passed it.

The boys were never cut any slack on what they had to accomplish. They took the same board exams as the graduates of Harvard. They became doctors because they had native intelligence, will power -- and a host of people who made possible the path they chose to take.

Not all crime victims have a vision of making themselves even more than they were before facing their tragedies. Both the ancient and contemporary stories shared today offer us a clear mandate, however. Where there is a resource that can lead to new life, it is our responsibility to show it to them.

The next time you meet a (Hagar/Patacara/Lalla), recognize that her plight was not likely of her own choosing. Do not cast her out, but hear her cry and give her what she needs to fulfill her own promise.

*(This "sample sermon" was developed by Dr. Richard Lord and Janice Harris Lord.
Story of Hagar from The Old Testament.*

*Stories of Patacara and Lalla from Ford-Grabowsky, Mary. Sacred Voices: Essential Women's
Wisdom Through the Ages, New York: Harper Collins, 2002.)*

Sample Proclamation

- Whereas,** crime and the threat of violence have profound and devastating effects on individuals, families and communities in America; and
- Whereas,** over 24 million people in the United States are touched by crime each year; and
- Whereas,** the threat and reality of terrorism have challenged *all* Americans to realize the devastating consequences of violent crime, and their important roles in providing support to individuals and communities who are victimized; and
- Whereas,** crime in America results in significant physical, psychological, financial and spiritual effects on countless innocent victims; and
- Whereas,** crime victims in every state, U.S. territories and Federal jurisdictions have statutory rights to be kept informed of and involved in criminal and juvenile justice processes, and to be afforded protection, restitution and accountability from their offenders; and
- Whereas,** there are over 10,000 community- and system-based victim service programs across our nation that provide a wide range of services and support to victims of crime; and
- Whereas,** in 2003, the Office for Victims of Crime within the U.S. Department of Justice commemorates 20 years of providing leadership to ensure that crime victims are treated with dignity and compassion; and
- Whereas,** America as a nation continues to face threats to our personal and public safety, and continues to commit its collective energies to help our fellow citizens who are hurt by crime; ***therefore, be it***
- Resolved,** that (*individual or entity*) proclaims the week of April 6 to 12, 2003 to be (*city/county/parish/state*) Crime Victims' Week, and honors crime victims and those who serve them during this week and throughout the year; ***and be it further***
- Resolved,** that we continue to fulfill the promise of justice and compassion for crime victims as individuals, as communities, and as a nation dedicated to justice for *all*; ***and be it further***
- Resolved,** that a suitably prepared copy of this proclamation be presented to (*your organization*) on (*date*).

Twenty Tips for Community Awareness and Public Education

1. Community leaders – including leadership from the county board of supervisors and mayors' office; local legislators; city and county law enforcement; prosecution; judiciary; and community and institutional corrections – can be provided with a nicely-designed form (via e-mail, fax, or mail) that states, "What I Can Do to 'Fulfill the Promise' to Victims of Crime." Their responses can be collected and utilized in speeches and public presentations, and/or displayed at public awareness events during NCVRW and throughout the year.
2. Victim assistance programs can distribute a nicely-designed form to victims and survivors whom they have served that states: "Victims' Rights: Fulfill the Promise": One Thing People in (*Community*) Can Do Fulfill the Promise of Support and Services to Victims of Crime." These powerful "voices of victims" – either anonymous or signed – can be utilized in speeches and public presentations, and/or displayed at public awareness events on brightly colored paper during NCVRW and throughout the year.
3. Victim assistance programs can engage schools (grades 3-12) in an essay/definition contest that asks: "What Does a *Promise* Mean to Me?" Programs can seek donated prizes from local businesses and retail stores. The students' responses can be displayed during NCVRW, and incorporated into speeches and other public presentations to emphasize the importance of the word "promise" to our youth.
4. "Fulfilling the promise to victims" can be incorporated into a staff activity that asks each staff member to write down one "promise" he or she can fulfill in the future to better serve victims of crime, and place it in a nicely decorated box. The cumulative "promises" can be typed up in a large font and included on a staff bulletin board display during NCVRW and throughout the year.
5. States or counties can convene a roundtable session of victims/survivors, victim service providers, criminal and juvenile justice and allied professionals, and volunteers to examine existing victims' rights in their state, and develop recommendations to "fulfill the promise" of victims' rights through the introduction of new laws and agency policies, or revision of existing laws and agency policies. The group's findings can be published in agency newsletters, or incorporated into an NCVRW collaborative press release or opinion/editorial column.
6. States can utilize the information and format of the enclosed "Crime Victims' Rights in America: A Historical Overview" to develop their own state-specific victims' rights history, which highlights key accomplishments that "fulfill the promise" to crime victims.
7. The Violence Intervention Program (VIP) of Oneonta, New York plans to sponsor a "Tails on Trails" 3K walk for dogs and their owners in a local state park. The proceeds raised from participant registration fees will go toward finding shelters for the pets of domestic violence and sexual assault victims when they leave their homes and go to the VIP shelter. VIP says the goals of this effort are to reach a key sector of the community – pet owners and their families – and to raise awareness that victims don't have to leave their pets behind when they seek shelter from abuse.
8. In Lewiston-Clarkston, Idaho, a highly successful billboard was erected that included a photograph of representatives of *all* law enforcement agencies in the area. The text

says: "If you abuse, you will answer to us." This project promoted collaboration with law enforcement agencies, and sent a strong public message about the consequences of criminal activity.

9. The Vermont Center for Victim Services held a statewide remembrance ceremony for crime victims, and planted a memorial sugar maple (the state tree) in honor of all crime victims on the green in St. Albans, Vermont. Participants in the ceremony – including many victims and survivors – also received individual saplings to take home and plant for their own remembrance. The maple tree was donated by a local nursery, and saplings were ordered at inexpensive rates through the agriculture conservation district. Support for and remembrance of victims of crime will continue to "grow" in Vermont as a result of this special project.
10. The Nebraska Department of Correctional Services sponsors an innovative coloring contest for its employees' children, with the contest resource package mailed directly to employees' homes. Prizes for winning submissions are donated by local retail and department stores. This project helps educate correctional employees about NCVRW and the Department's victim assistance program, and sends a message that victim services are available to them, should they ever be needed. This creative idea can be adapted for law enforcement and other justice agencies.
11. In Ohio, a "moment of silence" is observed throughout the entire prison system and parole offices in remembrance of crime victims. This simple, inexpensive yet powerful effort can be expanded to include *all* state agencies and/or county and local level agencies.
12. Members of the Survivors of Crime Council in Vermont wrote a description of their experiences as victims of crime, including their experiences with the criminal and juvenile justice systems – some anonymous, and some signed by the authors. These were printed on different brightly covered pieces of paper, and placed on the seats of legislators when they attended the opening day of the legislative session. Vermont stresses the simplicity, cost-effectiveness and high impact of this project, and suggests that a note be attached to each "victim vignette" stating: "Help us 'fulfill the promise' to crime victims during 2003 NCVRW and throughout the year."
13. In Cuyahoga County, Ohio, a "Women Watch Vigil" in downtown's Public Square includes family members of homicide victims, victims of sexual assault and family violence, and community leaders speaking out on behalf of victims of crime. "Silent witness" statues are held by participants and, at the end of the vigil, the crowd begins a silent walk through several blocks of downtown Cleveland. The participants enter the Justice Center and place the Silent Witnesses in the main atrium of the building around several display tables with information about state and local resources for victims. The day is closed with a reflection and lighting of a candle; the display remains in the atrium for two weeks.
14. A contest for program staff and volunteers can be sponsored to develop the most creative and visually powerful desk decorations and design that incorporate the "Victims' Rights: Fulfill the Promise" theme of 2003 NCVRW. Provide a box of supplies (that can be purchased at reasonable prices at most floral/craft and "dollar stores"). Then seek permission to transfer the winning desk designs/decorations to desks or counters at highly visible locations, such as law enforcement agencies or the reception areas of courts, probation agencies, or jails and prisons, during 2003 NCVRW.

15. Utilize the sample “Certificate of Appreciation” included in this Resource Guide to honor volunteers during NCVRW at a volunteer luncheon or banquet (April is also National Volunteer Recognition Month) . Send a press release that highlights what each volunteer has done to “fulfill the promise” to victims of crime in your community.
16. Think of creative ways to involve juvenile offenders in community service initiatives to support 2003 NCVRW. For example, in Denver in 1999, juvenile offenders completed community service hours to put up NCVRW public awareness posters across the city and, at the same time, fulfilled their accountability agreements and learned the importance of publicizing the rights and needs of crime victims. In Cedar Rapids, Iowa, youthful offenders prepared beautiful “dream catchers” that were given to homicide family survivors at the annual candlelight vigil, in keeping with the 1999 theme “Dare to Dream”; this creative approach can be utilized with this year’s theme, “Victims’ Rights: Fulfill the Promise,” as well.
17. Engage community service projects that publicize NCVRW by arranging for juvenile and adult offenders with community service obligations to cut 8-inch swatches of blue (PMS 2757) and orange (PMS 138) ribbons. Make copies of the “ribbon card” included in the camera-ready artwork in this Resource Guide, so the double ribbons can be pinned to the card (using two-inch stickpins that can be purchased at most floral/crafts stores). Then, widely distribute the ribbons prior to and during NCVRW, engaging local businesses and public venues to hang the theme poster (also mailed in conjunction with this Guide) and place a basket of ribbon cards in a prominent display area.
18. Create a visual display of the 2003 NCVRW theme posters and three victim issue-specific posters, and include brochures, fact sheets, statistical overviews (19 are included in this Guide) for distribution to crime victims and concerned citizens.
19. Encourage allied justice professionals to create their own NCVRW “mini-Resource Guides” that are specific to their staff, utilizing the materials included in this Resource Guide. For example, the Directors of the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections and the California Youth Authority send out selected resource materials – including the theme posters, statistical overviews, media materials, and toll-free telephone numbers for information and referrals – to agency work sites, with a cover memorandum that includes suggestions on how to utilize them for NCVRW commemorative activities, as well as suggestions for how to utilize these resources throughout the year.
20. Create resource packages utilizing the camera-ready artwork included in this Guide – such as buttons, bookmarks, theme ribbon cards, statistical overviews, toll-free victim assistance telephone numbers, web site roster, and theme posters – for distribution to *all* criminal and juvenile justice, victim assistance, and allied professional and volunteer agencies three weeks prior to NCVRW. Include a “calendar of events” that will be sponsored to commemorate 2003 NCVRW, and ask these agencies to join you as co-sponsors and/or participants, and to make copies of NCVRW resources for distribution to their staff and clients.

2003 Commemorative Calendar

Please mark your calendars for the events listed below, and contact any of the listed telephone numbers or web sites for additional information.

JANUARY

CRIME STOPPERS MONTH

Crime Stoppers International
800.245.0009
www.c-s-i.org

NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH

Harvard School of Public Health Center for Health Communications
617.432.1038
www.hsph.harvard.edu/chc/mentoringhome.html

APRIL

NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

April 6-12, 2003

U.S. Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime
800.627.6872 (OVC Resource Center)
www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc

NATIONAL CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

National Committee to Prevent Child Abuse
312.663.3520
www.childabuse.org

NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

National Sexual Violence Resource Center
717.909.0714
717.909.0715 (TTY)
www.nsvrc.org

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

April 27-May 3, 2003

Points of Light Foundation
800.750.7653
www.pointsoflight.org

NATIONAL YOUTH SERVICE DAYS

April 11-13, 2003

Youth Service America
202.296.2992
www.ysa.org

MAY

NATIONAL LAW DAY

May 1, 2003

American Bar Association
312.988.5000
www.abanet.org

NATIONAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS WEEK

May 4-10, 2003

American Correctional Association
www.aca.org

NATIONAL SAFE KIDS WEEK

May 3-10, 2003

National SAFE KIDS Campaign
202.662.0600
www.safekids.org

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

May 11-17, 2003

Concerns of Police Survivors
573.346.4911
www.nationalcops.org

NATIONAL PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL DAY

May 15, 2003

Concerns of Police Survivors
573.346.4911
www.nationalcops.org

MAY (continued)

NATIONAL MISSING CHILDREN'S DAY

National Center for Missing and Exploited
Children

800.843.5678

www.ncmec.org

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

Administration on Aging, Department of
Health and Human Services

www.aoa.gov/

NATIONAL SUICIDE AWARENESS WEEK

May 6-12, 2003

800.SUI.CIDE

www.suicidology.org

AUGUST

20TH ANNIVERSARY – NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

August 5, 2003

National Association of Town Watch

800.NITE.OUT

www.nationaltownwatch.org

SEPTEMBER

NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

September 25, 2003

National Organization of Parents of
Murdered Children, Inc.

888.818.POMC

www.pomc.org

OCTOBER

NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

National Coalition Against Domestic
Violence

303.839.1852

www.ncadv.org

NATIONAL CRIME PREVENTION MONTH

National Crime Prevention Council

202.466.6272

www.ncpc.org

AMERICA'S SAFE SCHOOLS WEEK

October 19-25, 2003

National School Safety Center

805.373.9977

www.nssc1.org

WEEK WITHOUT VIOLENCE

YWCA of the USA

888.992.2463

www.ywca.org

NOVEMBER

TIE ONE ON FOR SAFETY

November - December, 2003

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