

Victims' Rights: Strength in Unity

Introduction

The Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), within the Office of Justice Programs at the U.S. Department of Justice, is pleased to present the 2006 National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW) Resource Guide. This annual publication to enhance victim awareness and public outreach efforts during NCVRW was developed by Justice Solutions with support and guidance from OVC.

National Crime Victims' Rights Week is scheduled for April 23—29, 2006. This Resource Guide is designed to help victim assistance, criminal and juvenile justice, and allied professional agencies and communities collaborate and plan for victim and public awareness activities and events during NCVRW and throughout the year.

The Mission of National Crime Victims' Rights Week

The mission of National Crime Victims' Rights Week is to provide a time of nationwide remembrance, reflection, and re-commitment for crime victims and survivors and those who serve them in order to raise individual, victim, and public awareness about the rights and needs of crime victims; the challenges that victims face in seeking help and finding hope in the aftermath of crime; and the positive impact that individuals and communities can have by providing services and support to victims and survivors of crime.

The 2006 National Observance of National Crime Victims' Rights Week

The U.S. Department of Justice is scheduled to kick off the National Observance of NCVRW on Thursday, April 20, 2006, in Washington, DC, with the Fourth Annual National Candlelight Observance to pay tribute to crime victims and those who serve them. The National Awards Ceremony to honor individuals and programs for their outstanding efforts on behalf of crime victims will be held on Friday, April 21. Additional information about the National Observance and National Awards Ceremony—including time and location—will be available at OVC's Web site: www.ovc.gov/ncvrw/welcome.html.

2006 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Theme and Theme Colors

The theme for 2006 NCVRW is "Victims' Rights: Strength in Unity," which is

reflected in the text, artwork and graphic designs included in the Resource Guide. The 2006 theme—"Victims' Rights: Strength in Unity"—pays tribute to crime victims and survivors who, for many decades, have joined together in mutual support and advocacy to promote victims' rights and services. It also recognizes the ongoing efforts of countless victim service providers, criminal and juvenile justice professionals, and allied professionals and volunteers who selflessly dedicate their lives to helping victims of crime. By honoring the *power of one* and recognizing the *strength of many*, the crime victims' assistance field and its many allies can truly achieve justice for victims and survivors of crime.

This year's theme colors are Eggplant (Pantone #269) and Antique Gold (Pantone #456).

Suggestions for Using the 2006 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Resource Guide

It is critical to coordinate *all* 2006 NCVRW activities within a jurisdiction to ensure the best possible use of time and resources. Please consider these suggestions that can enhance your 2006 NCVRW planning and maximize the impact of your efforts:

- Carefully review all the contents of the 2006 NCVRW Resource Guide, so you become familiar with the wide range of resources it includes.
- Establish a NCVRW Planning Committee to collaboratively plan, implement and evaluate your NCVRW activities, and to truly reflect this year's theme of *strength in unity*. Potential members include crime victims and survivors, victim service providers, health



Overview of the Resource Guide (continued)

and mental health professionals, public policy makers, representatives from criminal and juvenile justice agencies, universities and colleges, schools, civic organizations, multi-faith communities, the business community, the service industry, and the news media. It is important to encourage collaboration with and support from representatives of communities that include victims who are traditionally underserved.

- Develop e-mail rosters to facilitate easy and ongoing communications with: Planning Committee members; participating constituencies; crime victims and survivors; and the news media.
- Develop and update mailing lists for invitations and other materials.
- Create “NCVRW News You Can Use” brief summaries of planning activities and scheduled events, and encourage your partners to disseminate them via their Web sites, newsletters, in-house publications, and e-mail groups.
- Develop a planning timetable that indicates Planning Committee meetings, goals and measurable objectives, deliverables, deadlines, and areas of responsibility. Provide updates, as needed, on a regularly scheduled basis.
- Make sure you have a current database of print and electronic news media in your jurisdiction (see “Working With the Media” for suggestions about how to create or update a media database).
- Coordinate 2006 NCVRW planning activities with those being planned to commemorate National Child Abuse Awareness Month, National Sexual Assault Awareness Month, National Volunteer Week, and National Youth Service Days (all scheduled for April 2006).

Your 2006 Resource Guide is divided into six sections (which are described in more detail below), and formatted into booklets that are easy to reference and retain. Each section has a cover page that describes its components in greater detail. In addition, the one-page “At-A-Glance” checklist provides a summary of the key concepts and special features of the Resource Guide that are critical to your successful promotion of 2006 NCVRW.

New additions to the 2006 Resource Guide include:

- “Building Capacity During National Crime Victims’ Rights Week,” which provides ideas and suggested activities that can help you build capacity within an organization or collaboratively among many groups, and strengthen your year-round efforts to assist crime victims.
- “Tips for Outreach and Collaboration to Promote National Crime Victims’ Rights Week,” which provides creative tips and recommendations to enhance efforts to promote *strength* and *unity* in victim assistance and public education through effective collaborations, both for NCVRW and throughout the year.
- A camera-ready template with artwork for a tri-fold brochure for 2006 NCVRW, which can be personalized to include relevant NCVRW information that is specific to your jurisdiction.

Electronic Access for the 2006 National Crime Victims’ Rights Week Resource Guide

All camera-ready artwork featured in the 2006 Resource Guide is included on an easy-to-access CD (included in a die-cut slip in the Guide’s folder) to enhance customization efforts. The artwork is provided in three formats:

1. Macintosh Quark 5.0 files, along with the accompanying fonts and images required to correctly open and print the artwork. The user must have QuarkXPress for Macintosh in Version 5.0 or above to be able to open and view these files.
2. PDF files that can be opened by any computer with Acrobat Reader. Acrobat Reader can be downloaded at no cost from <http://www.adobe.com/products/acrobat/readstep2.html>. These PDFs are interactive, and include fill-in boxes within the pages for personalizing the artwork. A full copy of Acrobat, not just the reader, will be needed to personalize the artwork.
3. JPEG files are graphic image files and cannot be edited or personalized, but can be placed in other graphics programs, as well as on the Web.

The entire contents of the 2006 NCVRW Resource Guide can be accessed in electronic format at: www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2006/welcome.html.

Overview of the Resource Guide (continued)

2006 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Resource Guide Contents

1. Overview of the Resource Guide

This introductory section provides an overview of the purpose, dates, theme, and theme colors for 2006 NCVRW. It includes a description of the mission of NCVRW, new additions to this year's Guide, and information about how to electronically access the Resource Guide from the OVC Web site.

2. Maximizing Communication and Awareness

- Commemorative Calendar
- Notable Quotables
- Sample Proclamation
- Sample Speech
- Building Capacity During National Crime Victims' Rights Week
- Tips for Outreach and Collaboration to Promote National Crime Victims' Rights Week
- Tips to Promote Victim and Community Awareness

3. Camera-Ready Artwork

- Five Print Public Service Posters in English
- Three Print Public Service Posters in Spanish
- Logos, Buttons, and Magnets
- Bookmarks
- Ribbon Cards
- Name Tags and Name Plates
- 2006 NCVRW Letterhead
- 2006 NCVRW Tri-fold Brochure (two separate pages)
- Bumper Stickers
- National Toll-free Information and Referral Telephone Numbers
- Crime Clock (with national statistics)
- Crime Clock (blank layout to complete with state or local statistics) available on the enclosed CD
- Certificate of Appreciation

4. Working With the Media

- Sample Press Release
- Sample Public Service Announcements
- Sample Opinion/Editorial Column

5. Landmarks in Victims' Rights and Services

- Crime Victims' Rights in America: A Historical Overview

6. Statistical Overview and Resources

- Statistical Overviews (one-page summaries of the most current crime statistics)
 - Child Abuse and Victimization
 - Cost of Crime and Victimization
 - Crime and Victimization
 - Crime in Higher Education
 - Cybercrime Victimization
 - Domestic Violence
 - Drunk and Drugged Driving
 - Elder Crime and Victimization
 - Financial Crime and Identity Theft
 - Hate and Bias Crime Victimization
 - Homicide
 - Human Trafficking
 - Juvenile Crime and Victimization
 - Mental Health Issues
 - Rape and Sexual Assault
 - School Crime and Victimization
 - Stalking
 - Substance Abuse and Crime Victimization
 - Terrorism and Mass Violence
 - Victims with Disabilities
 - Workplace Violence and Victimization
- Accessing Information: OVC Resource Center and Other Services
- NCVRW Resource Guide Partners
- Resource Guide Evaluation Form

Victim and Public Awareness Theme Poster

OVC is pleased to offer a dynamic, two-color 22" by 27" poster that incorporates the 2006 NCVRW theme, "Victims' Rights: Strength in Unity." The theme poster can be used in public and office displays, and can be easily adapted to billboards, lawn signs, and other public awareness efforts.

If you automatically received this Resource Guide in the mail, you will automatically receive one copy of the theme poster in a separate mailing tube. A limited number of additional copies of the poster can be purchased for \$12.25 each by contacting the OVC Resource Center at <http://www.ncjrs.gov>, click on the Publications/Products tab and request Order Number PS000015. Other NCVRW Resources are available online at <http://www.ovc.gov/ncvrw2006.html>.

Victims' Rights: Strength in Unity Introductory Theme DVD

The Introductory Theme DVD is a powerful audiovisual depiction of this year's theme. It can be used to kick off your public awareness and education events during NCVRW and throughout the year, as well as for training purposes to highlight the *strength* and *unity* of America's victim assistance field.