



Celebrating the  
Victims of Crime Act



## 25 Years of Rebuilding Lives: Celebrating the Victims of Crime Act

### Introduction

The National Center for Victims of Crime and the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), Office of Justice Programs, within the U.S. Department of Justice, are proud to once again bring you the 2009 *National Crime Victims' Rights Week Resource Guide*.

Since 1981, National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW) has been a time of national remembrance—an opportunity for communities, victims and their loved ones, and victim-serving professionals to join together and reflect on the hard-won progress achieved in victims' rights and services and the challenges many crime victims still face.

The 2009 *NCVRW Resource Guide* contains a wide array of readily adaptable outreach tools, information on current levels of victimization and the history of victims' rights in the United States, and tips on how to involve your community in helping crime victims rebuild their lives. We encourage you to explore these resources as you plan your public awareness campaign for this year's National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 26 – May 2, 2009.

### 2009 NCVRW Theme and Theme Colors

The 2009 NCVRW theme, “25 Years of Rebuilding Lives: Celebrating the Victims of Crime Act,” recognizes and celebrates the profound and wide-reaching impact of the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) on victims' rights and resources. For 25 years through the Crime Victims Fund, VOCA has supported thousands of agencies and millions of victims across the nation. The Fund provides critical financial assistance to victim compensation and victim service programs, such as domestic violence shelters and rape crisis centers, and it funds information and support for victims as their cases move through the courts. There is much to celebrate!

Materials in the 2009 *NCVRW Resource Guide* incorporate this year's theme colors of cranberry red (Pantone #208C) and dark blue (Pantone #534C).

### NCVRW Kickoff Events

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) will commence National Crime Victims' Rights Week with the Seventh Annual National Candlelight Observance on Thursday, April 23, 2009, in Washington, DC. The Attorney General's National Crime Victims' Service Awards Ceremony, which honors individuals and programs for innovations and outstanding achievements, will be held on Friday, April 24, 2009, in Washington, DC. For times, locations, and other event details, visit [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/ncvrw](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/ncvrw).

### NCVRW Planning Tips

You can enhance your 2009 NCVRW planning and maximize the impact of your efforts by making use of the following suggestions:

- Review each section of the Resource Guide before executing any plans. Decide which materials would be most helpful toward achieving your outreach goals.
- Establish an NCVRW Planning Committee to help brainstorm activities and share the workload. Committee members could include crime victims, survivors, victim service providers, or health professionals; leaders of civic organizations, universities, parent-teacher associations, or student organizations; or members of criminal and juvenile justice agencies, ecumenical congregations, local businesses, the service industry, or the news media. Encourage diversity and collaboration with under-served populations.
- Exchange contact information, including e-mail addresses, to facilitate ongoing communication among committee members.

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- Create or update mailing lists for event invitations and other materials.
- Draft a timetable that includes committee meetings, tasks, deadlines, and areas of responsibility.
- Develop a contact sheet of local media outlets to notify when you schedule special events (see “Section 2: Working with the Media”).
- Coordinate planning for 2009 National Crime Victims’ Rights Week with other awareness and prevention campaigns held during April, including National Child Abuse Prevention Month, National Sexual Assault Awareness Month, National Volunteer Week, and National Youth Service Days.

## ***New This Year! FAQs***

Wondering how to find a speaker for your event, whether you can reproduce Resource Guide contents, or how to order more copies of the Resource Guide? Review the new “Frequently Asked Questions” insert, opposite “At-A-Glance.”

## **2009 NCVRW Resource Guide Contents**

### **Section 1: Overview of the Resource Guide**

### **Section 2: Maximizing Communication and Awareness**

- Commemorative Calendar
- VOCA Voices
- Sample Proclamation
- Sample Speech
- Extend Your Reach through Partnerships
- Ideas for Special Events

### **Section 3: Camera-Ready Artwork**

- 2009 NCVRW Black-and-White Poster (11” x 17”)
- Logos, Buttons, and Magnets
- Bookmarks
- Ribbon Cards
- Name Tags and Table Cards
- 2009 NCVRW Letterhead
- Certificate of Appreciation
- Information and Referrals Contact List
- *New!* VOCA Chart
- Crime Clock (in English and Spanish)
- Three Public Awareness Posters in English
- Three Public Awareness Posters in Spanish

### **Section 4: Working with the Media**

- Sample News Release
- Sample Public Service Announcements
- Sample Opinion-Editorial Column

### **Section 5: Landmarks in Victims’ Rights and Services**

Crime Victims’ Rights in America: An Historical Overview

### **Section 6: Statistical Overview and Resources**

- *New!* Public Awareness Poster Gallery
- Statistical Overviews (one-page summaries of the most current crime statistics)
  - > Overview of Crime Victimization in the United States
  - > Campus Crime
  - > Child Victimization
  - > Cost of Crime and Victimization
  - > Disabilities and Victimization
  - > Domestic Violence/Intimate Partner Victimization
  - > Drunk and Drugged Driving
  - > Elder Victimization
  - > Hate and Bias Crime Victimization
  - > Homicide
  - > Human Trafficking
  - > Identity Theft and Financial Crime
  - > Internet Victimization
  - > Mental Health Consequences of Crime
  - > School Crime and Victimization

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- > Sexual Violence
- > Stalking
- > Substance Abuse and Crime Victimization
- > Teen Victimization
- > Terrorism
- > Workplace Violence
- NCVRW Resource Guide Partners and Other Resources
- Resource Guide Evaluation Form

## CD-ROM of the 2009 NCVRW Resource Guide

The enclosed CD-ROM (inserted into folder pocket) features all camera-ready artwork included in the 2009 NCVRW Resource Guide. The CD will allow you to incorporate the artwork into other materials you may develop and to add local contact information in the spaces provided.

*New!* For the first time, this year's CD-ROM contains PDFs with fillable form fields. This exciting development enables anyone with a computer and a free copy of Adobe Reader to add local contact information to many of the camera-ready pieces. Once again, the PDFs (as well as JPEG images) will be available in both black and white and color. (See "Section 3. Camera-Ready Artwork" for more information about this new feature.)

The camera-ready artwork is provided in three formats:

1. **QuarkXpress® 7.3** layout pages, including the fonts and images required to correctly open and print the artwork. To view these files, the user must have QuarkXPress for MacIntosh, version 6.0 or higher.

2. **JPEG** files available in both **black and white** and **color**. These individual images may be placed in graphics programs, in various word processing programs, and on Web sites.

3. **PDF** files in **black and white** and **color** that can be opened with Adobe Reader, available for free download at [www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com).

These three formats can help simplify replication of Resource Guide materials and make it easier to incorporate this year's artwork into any digital or hard-copy piece, including event fliers, slideshow presentations, television broadcasts, public service announcements, and print advertisements. (For more information on the artwork in this year's Resource Guide, please refer to "Section 3: Camera-Ready Artwork.")

The entire contents of the 2009 NCVRW Resource Guide can be accessed in electronic format at <http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ncvrw2009/welcome.html>.

## Theme DVD

The five-minute introductory theme DVD (inserted into pocket folder) is a wonderful public awareness tool and a tribute to crime victims and the advocates and public servants who work with them. You can use the DVD to open ceremonies and luncheons, kick off your public awareness and education events, or inspire local media to cover NCVRW events and topics. Back by popular demand, this year's DVD also includes a 60-second television public service announcement, ready to air on local channels, with room for your contact information.

## 2009 NCVRW Theme Poster

This year's full-size (22" x 28") poster elegantly celebrates its theme—"25 Years of Rebuilding Lives: Celebrating the Victims of Crime Act." The dynamic image, full of movement and light, combines grace and strength in a compelling display and is sure to enhance any event, gathering, or display.

If you automatically received this Resource Guide in the mail, you will also receive one copy of the theme poster in a separate mailing tube. A limited number of additional copies of the poster and the Resource Guide can be purchased for a small shipping fee by visiting the OVC Resource Center at [www.ncjrs.gov](http://www.ncjrs.gov). (Click on the Publications/Products tab, and request Order Number PS000020 for the theme poster and NCJ224169 for the Resource Guide.) You can also download both this year's and previous Resource Guides, including the camera-ready artwork and Theme DVDs, at <http://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ncvrw2009/welcome.html>.

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### **National Center for Victims of Crime**

#### **Team Members**

Mary Gleason Rappaport,  
*Project Director*

Kristi Rocap, *Publications Coordinator*

Elizabeth Joyce, *Senior Writer*

Jack Fleming, *Project Assistant*

Susan Howley, *Senior Project Advisor*

Ilse Knecht, *Project Specialist*

#### **Contributors**

JEB Design, Inc., Arnold, MD

202design, Washington, DC

Video/Action, Inc., Washington, DC

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