



Department of Justice



Office of Justice Programs

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OFFICE FOR VICTIMS OF CRIME COMMEMORATES NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

WASHINGTON – The Department of Justice’s Office for Victims of Crime will join communities across the country in observing National Crime Victims’ Rights Week, following President Donald Trump’s proclamation of this year’s observance from April 8-14. The annual commemoration was established by President Ronald Reagan in 1981.

“It is critical that communities come together to meet the needs of victims and survivors of all types of crime,” said OVC Director Darlene Hutchinson. “Many effective victim assistance programs exist that can help in the aftermath of a crime. It’s essential we connect victims with these services as they travel the journey toward healing, and strive to always protect the rights of victims and give them a voice.”

OVC will present 12 awards to recognize individuals and organizations from across the nation for their outstanding services on behalf of crime victims during the National Crime Victims’ Service Awards Ceremony Friday, April 13.

To further NCVRW’s theme of “Expand the Circle: Reach All Victims,” OVC awarded more than \$300,000 to 45 communities to generate awareness of crime victims’ rights and services during the 2018 NCVRW.

“We need to create an environment where victims feel that justice is attainable and where they’re more likely to report a crime,” said Hutchinson. According to the latest [National Crime Victimization Survey](#) released by the Bureau of Justice Statistics, about 56 percent of violent crimes were not reported to police.

This funding supports state and local NCVRW events by helping to purchase supplies and materials used in community events and activities; designing and printing educational material; and developing a broad, collaborative approach that highlights services for all types of crime victims. Community Awareness Project grantees can be found at <http://cap.navaa.org/recipients-2018.html>. NCVRW awareness events can be found at <https://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ovccalendar>.

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The Office of Justice Programs, headed by Principal Deputy Assistant Attorney General Alan R. Hanson, provides federal leadership in developing the nation's capacity to prevent and control crime, administer justice and assist victims. OJP has six bureaus and offices: the Bureau of Justice Assistance; the Bureau of Justice Statistics; the National Institute of Justice; the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; the Office for Victims of Crime; and the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering and Tracking. More information about OJP and its components can be found at www.ojp.gov.

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