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Victims of Crime

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Dear Colleague,

The National Center for Victims of Crime is again honored to partner with the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office for Victims of Crime to present the *2019 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Resource Guide*. Use the Resource Guide to inspire and support your participation in National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW) this April 7-13, 2019, and to facilitate your promotion of other awareness activities throughout the year.

We pay homage to all of the victims' rights organizations and movements of the past with this year's theme: ***Honoring Our Past. Creating Hope for the Future.*** Today, we stand on the shoulders of those intrepid individuals who pushed for progress in crime victims' rights. They envisioned a time when survivors held a shared hope – for change, for healing, for resilience, and to be heard and treated with dignity. We hold tightly to that hope and continue their work, seeking a future where all victims receive culturally sensitive services and support in their recovery.

As we approach NCVRW this year, we take a moment to reflect and show gratitude to those individuals and organizations that were so instrumental in building the foundations of today's initiatives. We applaud the current work of the victim services field, which has adapted to and embraced new technologies as tools to engage communities and reach victims who may have been previously overlooked. The future holds new projects and programs, made possible by greater funding, to provide specialized services to victims. Together, we can ensure that those services help victims who need them most.

NCVRW commemorations and events grow in size and strength each year. Communities unite in solidarity to show that victims are not alone in their trauma and that their stories have been heard. In your commemorations, we hope you use the materials in this Resource Guide to amplify victims' voices on both local and national levels.

On behalf of the National Center for Victims of Crime, thank you for your tireless work and constant support of all crime victims.

Sincerely,



Mai Fernandez
Executive Director
National Center for Victims of Crime