

# IDEAS FOR SPECIAL EVENTS

Each year, communities throughout the country develop a variety of creative ways to commemorate National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW). From festivals to educational forums, art displays to tree plantings, marches to memorials to media outreach, diverse groups with a variety of experiences, knowledge, and skills create their own traditions to honor, engage, and advocate for victims. In anticipation of NCVRW, your organization has the opportunity to reach out to other local groups and coordinate events that honor crime victims and raise awareness of victims' issues within the community.

To support these efforts, the Office for Victims of Crime, in conjunction with the National Association of VOCA Assistance Administrators, offers funding assistance through its Community Awareness Projects initiative. Each year, funds are awarded to help communities create their own projects based on criteria including collaboration, innovation, community impact, media involvement, and experience with victims' issues. As you plan your 2020 activities, be inspired by last year's projects and look for ways to honor the history of victim services and create hope for our future initiatives. (See <https://navaa.org/community-awareness-project> and join the NCVRW subscription list to receive information about 2021 funding opportunities.)

## Advertising Campaigns

- The Alaska Native Justice Center developed and distributed brochures with information about victims' rights and victim resources, tote bags, bookmarks, and bracelets that featured the NCVRW theme colors and the center's theme, "Voices for Justice."
- In Indiana, the Albion Fellows Bacon Center displayed digital billboards and yard signs, and distributed information/resource cards and giveaways such as coasters, lip balm, phone sleeves, and magnets. Information tables were set up in the courthouse and at universities, businesses, and restaurants; and table

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tents providing information about local and national victim service agencies were displayed on school lunch tables and in businesses, restaurants, and bars. Law enforcement officers were given information cards to distribute that listed local resources and victims' rights.

- Amani Community Services—which provides culturally specific services to victims of color in Eastern Iowa—created a television commercial to encourage victims of color to reach out for assistance and to inform them that there is assistance available to help them navigate the justice system. The commercial featured victims of color speaking about the crime they endured, and advocates of color speaking about the rights and services available. The television commercial was aired by a primetime network from April 1–14.
- Asian American Community Services created five informational graphics and posted them on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter daily during NCVRW. Each day covered a different topic of interest to victims: the Ohio Crime Victims' Assistance Program, Marsy's Law, Ohio's Safe at Home Program, victims' immigration rights, and workers' rights.
- Crime Victim Services of Allen and Putnam Counties in Ohio collaborated with the local television station to create a public service announcement that included the NCVRW theme and information about the Marsy's Law constitutional amendment, which expanded



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the rights and services of victims. They also created NCVRW-themed fliers and posters on victims' rights and services that were placed in local businesses and county offices.

- In Georgia, the Cherokee County Sheriff's Office, in collaboration with the District Attorney, the Office of the Solicitor General, and the Domestic Violence Task Force, distributed informative bookmarks to community libraries and pocket mirrors to local hair salons for their patrons.
- Day One, whose mission is to reduce the prevalence of sexual abuse and violence, produced an ad to raise awareness about the prevalence of crimes against children, which ran before the previews in movie theaters throughout Rhode Island for two weeks. Day One also used Facebook ads to help spread awareness of crimes against children.
- Destined to Win Ministries, a faith-based victim service organization in Hampton, Virginia, promoted NCVRW activities by running an ad in the local newspaper, posting the NCVRW Theme Video on various social media outlets, and producing a radio announcement that aired five times per day for 4 days. They also distributed event calendars, fliers, posters, display banners, brochures, and directories of criminal and juvenile justice resources to the public.
- The Douglas County District Attorney's Office in Georgia conducted a mass media campaign that included running ads in monthly news publications and in the local newspaper; producing a public service announcement, which was shown in the lobby and on all screens in the local movie theater; and posting the public service announcement and information about NCVRW activities on Facebook. They also distributed information cards on NCVRW, victims' rights, and the services available in various locations throughout the county.
- In Arizona, the Maricopa Police Department implemented a mass media campaign for NCVRW. After the city mayor proclaimed NCVRW at a city council meeting, the Maricopa Police Department kicked off a media blitz promoting NCVRW through social media (Facebook, Twitter, and the city website), press releases, and ads in the local newspaper. A billboard promoting NCVRW was also placed in a prime location to be seen by people commuting to the city.
- In Georgia, liveSAFE Resources created an informational video and a 60-second public service announcement on crime victims' awareness and rights that were used for promotional and educational purposes before, during, and after NCVRW. The District Attorney's Office used the video to promote NCVRW along with Sexual Assault Awareness Month activities. The video and PSA were added to the agency's Facebook page and website.
- The Crime Victim Assistance Division (CVAD) of the Iowa Attorney General's Office partnered with victim services programs and businesses to promote victims' rights. They distributed window decals that displayed the NCVRW theme, the phone number of the Iowa Victim Service Call Center, and the URL for the CVAD website. The decals also stated "Share your story with us using #NCVRW19Iowa," encouraging survivors, advocates, and others to reflect on their past, while also looking to the future. The decals, available in English and Spanish, were distributed by victim service programs across the state to local businesses and organizations so they could be displayed on their windows, restroom mirrors, and other applicable surfaces.
- The Domestic Abuse Intervention Service of Madison, Wisconsin, purchased lip balm tubes with the NCVRW theme and theme design on the outside and resources for victims on the inside. They collaborated with community partners, first responders, and healthcare organizations to distribute the tubes during NCVRW.
- Iowa Safe Schools purchased koozies imprinted with the NCVRW logo and information on the Iowa Crime Victim Hotline and distributed them to local bars, restaurants, Gay-Straight Alliances, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) organizations. They also purchased billboards in areas



frequented by LGBTQ individuals, which featured the NCVRW theme and logo as well as the Iowa Safe Schools website address.

- The Los Alamos Police Department enhanced the public's awareness of victims' rights and services through a mass media campaign. NCVRW-themed rack cards and posters listing resources for victims were installed on 20 transit buses in the county. Drivers on the transit bus system actively promoted NCVRW to passengers and encouraged people to take or at least look at the rack cards. The rack cards were also provided to the New Mexico Park and Ride Motor Coaches and distributed throughout the county to various locations, such as libraries, counseling agencies, and local hospitals.
- The Lake County State's Attorney's Office in Florida conducted a community outreach campaign that began several weeks before NCVRW with a press release informing the community about NCVRW events and introducing the week's theme. The community outreach campaign also included social media advertisements and the distribution of printed NCVRW materials and the Victims' Bill of Rights at stores, libraries, community agencies, and outreach events.
- The Nebraska Commission on Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice rented six billboards in the most high-traffic areas of Nebraska nearest to underserved populations. They also staffed resource tables to distribute pamphlets from various victim-serving organizations, as well as pens and magnets with website and statewide resources.
- The North Dakota Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Victim Services Program promoted NCVRW with a mass media advertising campaign throughout the state. It included print and online newspaper ads, social media posts, 30-second radio commercials, daily email blasts of facts and information from the NCVRW Resource Guide, and customized NCVRW stickers, which were distributed to law enforcement, parole and probation officers, colleges and universities, and community victim advocate agencies.
- The Northridge Hospital Foundation in California engaged in an extensive mass media campaign by advertising on electronic billboards located on a bus and two cars that continuously displayed a slideshow of messages about victims' rights and services and NCVRW events. At each bus stop, NCVRW volunteers handed out promotional giveaways and printed materials, such as brochures and fact sheets. A different theme was assigned to each day of NCVRW (e.g., human trafficking, domestic violence, sexual assault, elder abuse).
- In Indiana, the Fort Wayne Police Department's Victim Assistance Program conducted a mass media campaign promoting NCVRW. Two digital billboards promoted NCVRW and provided information on victim statistics, rights, and services; and daily mass advertising was done through a local newspaper and an email blast to the local newspaper's subscribers.
- The Rocky Mountain Victim Law Center distributed pocket-size reference guides to district attorney's offices, law enforcement, and advocates throughout Colorado. The guides featured the Victim Rights Act statute and the NCVRW theme, imagery, and colors.
- The South Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice kicked off NCVRW by disseminating victims' rights materials such as posters, palm cards, and calendars to all county offices for distribution to victims of crime. These materials were also distributed at the South Carolina Victims' Rights Week Conference.
- In Michigan, the Saginaw Police Department promoted NCVRW and brought awareness to crime victims' issues by displaying the NCVRW theme and logo on three large billboards in different areas of town, with each including the contact information for the department's Victim Services Unit. NCVRW placemats with contact information for six local victim service providers were distributed to 25 local establishments to use for dining service or to display in windows and on business countertops. The businesses and service providers were also given NCVRW koozies to hand out to patrons or clients.



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## **Art Displays, Video Screenings, and Cultural Events**

- In California, the Hopland Band of Pomo Indians' victim services program held a contest to develop a graphic about crime victims' rights, incorporating the NCVRW theme image and the tribe's logo. They used the winning graphic to develop posters that were distributed to native communities, the local shelter, law enforcement, jails, and medical providers.
- The Essex County Victim Witness Program in Minnesota held an exhibit showcasing artwork done by students that focused on the NCVRW theme, theme image, and theme colors. The artwork was also displayed in public libraries. The program organized a presentation on NCVRW at one of the local schools, and held a Speakers Night where victims of domestic violence could speak with law enforcement and the county attorney.
- The Family Refuge Center, in southwestern West Virginia, hosted a Crime Victims' Rights Coloring/Essay Contest for students. Younger students were given an NCVRW-themed coloring sheet and older students were provided with the NCVRW theme to use in writing an essay or poem. The winning works were displayed at a recognition event. The center also hosted screenings of the movies "The Amendment" and "The Hunting Ground," followed by panel discussions.
- The Monongalia County Victim Assistance Program in Morgantown, West Virginia, and the local police department cohosted a movie night targeted at underserved victim populations. The event featured the movie "Shazam!," an empowering story about a 14-year-old foster child turned superhero. A resource table was set up to distribute promotional materials.
- The Otoe-Missouria Tribe hosted an event called the "Protecting Our Children Honor Powwow" that promoted awareness of crimes against children and youth. Children and youth were honored as guest speakers/special guests to promote NCVRW. Attendees received an NCVRW t-shirt.

- In Albany, New York, the Trinity Alliance of the Capital Region held a screening of the film "Charm City" to generate discussion about violent victimization, trauma, and grief, and the community's power to heal.
- The Utah Office for Victims of Crime hosted an LGBTQ2S+ film night, where they showed the film "Leitis in Waiting" followed by a panel discussion of LGBTQ+ and the Pacific Islander community. They also collaborated with the Utah Museum of Contemporary Art to host a Healing Through Art event that featured a local artist/art therapist who guided participants in creating self-portraits.
- The Women's Center of East Texas displayed two Clothesline Projects during NCVRW to promote and enhance the public's awareness of rights and services for all crime victims.

## **Award and Recognition Ceremonies**

- The Albion Fellows Bacon Center in Indiana held a Celebration of Survivors to honor and remember victims and survivors of crime. Participants were given "wish paper" on which to write a memory "honoring their past and their hope for the future."
- In Massachusetts, the Bristol County District Attorney's Office held two dedication ceremonies, during which benches were placed at the Council on Aging Office and at the local police department. The ceremonies, which featured the NCVRW theme, included speeches from local officials, resource tables highlighting local and state resources for victims, and NCVRW tote bags for attendees.
- The Crime Victims Assistance Association of Arkansas held a Recognition and Victim Rights Forum that included a panel discussion of victims' rights; presentation of awards to individuals, agencies, and victims; and an NCVRW video presentation.



- The Delaware Department of Justice, with support from the Delaware Victims' Rights Task Force, held a proclamation signing with the Governor and partner agencies. The signing included an awards ceremony to recognize outstanding agencies, professionals, and volunteers.
- The Family Refuge Center, in southwestern West Virginia, held a Beacon of Hope Ceremony to kick off NCVRW. Two individuals from each of the four counties were honored as recipients of "Beacon of Hope" awards.
- In Florida, the Fort Myers Police Department partnered with local agencies to hold an NCVRW ceremony that included a butterfly release, guest speakers, a scavenger hunt for kids, and a chance for victims to briefly share something from their journey. The mayor signed an NCVRW proclamation, which was displayed alongside photographs of homicide victims. The chief of police also signed and presented certificates of appreciation to participating volunteers, agencies, and organizations.
- The Galveston County Criminal District Attorney's Office in Texas held a ceremony to present "Champions of Victims' Rights and Services" certificates to public officials and community organizations.
- Lummi Nation, the primary victims' rights organization of the Lummi Reservation in Ferndale, Washington, held a shawl ceremony during NCVRW that included five shawls to represent and raise awareness of sexual assault, domestic violence, child abuse, elder abuse, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender hate crimes. The NCVRW theme image and colors were used on all promotional materials for the events.
- In Anchorage, Alaska, Victims for Justice held an awards ceremony for victims and those who serve them in the criminal justice system and in the community.
- The Pinal County Attorney's Office in Florence, Arizona, held its third annual law enforcement appreciation day, where attendees were given NCVRW-themed cups, post-it notes, victims' rights cards, and napkins.
- The Shelby County Crime Victims & Rape Crisis Center in Tennessee hosted a Grand Opening/Community Celebration to promote the public's awareness of rights and services for victims, with more than 200 community members in attendance. They also hosted an Awards Reception to honor those who work on behalf of victims of crime every day. Two survivors spoke about the impact of crime on them and the importance of retaining hope and resiliency.
- The Vermont Center for Crime Victim Services held their annual Ceremony Honoring Victims, Survivors, Advocates and Service Providers. This daylong event included a workshop, a keynote speaker, and an award ceremony that honored victims, survivors, advocates, and allied professionals. Copies of the *Vermont Services Resource Guide* were distributed at the event.

## **Community Awareness and Engagement Events**

- In Idaho, Advocates Against Family Violence collaborated with the county sheriff's office, city officials, and a local business to host an "Evening of Awareness." The event included booths staffed by victim service organizations, food vendors, speakers, and t-shirt and card giveaways. Advertising for the events was done through radio and newspaper and by displaying NCVRW posters throughout the service areas.
- In Arizona, Against Abuse, Inc., and their collaborative partners hosted several events during NCVRW, including a proclamation event; a victims' rights training session for law enforcement, service providers, and community members; and a candlelight vigil with resource tables.
- The Cherokee County Sheriff's Office held a class to inform community members on what to do if they become a victim of financial identity theft. Additionally, resource guides and victim services information were distributed to local businesses and churches



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throughout the county, bookmarks were distributed to community libraries, and pocket mirrors were handed out to local hair salons for their patrons.

- Child and Family Service held two events during NCVRW to increase the public's awareness of rights and services for victims of crime in Hawaii County. Both events included resource tables from collaborative agencies, a roundtable discussion, and the distribution of various giveaways, such as pens and coasters.
- The Child First Advocacy Center in Vermont held an interactive forum on the impact of all types of crime on victims, which consisted of a panel of service providers, law enforcement, and victim advocates. The center also distributed NCVRW-themed coffee sleeves with local resource and crisis phone numbers to local coffee shops, provided NCVRW buttons for law enforcement to wear, and gave NCVRW-themed cellphone pop sockets to partner agencies and victims of crime.
- In North Carolina, the City of Durham Police Department Victim/Witness Services Unit coordinated several events before and during NCVRW, including a proclamation reading at the city council meeting preceding NCVRW, a remembrance ceremony, and a family sporting event. The police department also hosted an NCVRW ceremony that featured representatives from the Durham Chapter of Parents of Murdered Children and other victim service providers, who provided information on the services available.
- The Crisis Shelter of Lawrence County in Pennsylvania kicked off NCVRW with a Crime Victims' Rights Awareness Day that included a victims' rights scavenger hunt, a martial arts "fight for justice," a prize wheel of trivia with information on victims' rights, a craft table, an information table, and survivor speakers.
- The Delaware County District Attorney's Office in Pennsylvania conducted several events, including a victims' rights walk, an awards luncheon, a family fun event, and a candlelight vigil held in collaboration with Parents of Murdered Children. Victim services agencies also set up information tables outside the courthouse with NCVRW promotional items.
- First Step: A Response to Domestic Violence in Harrisonburg, Virginia, hosted a trauma-informed yoga event and a mindful painting session. Participants received NCVRW-theme tote bags, water bottles, coasters, drawing sets, and yoga mats.
- Hartford Behavioral Health in Connecticut hosted a Victims' Rights Forum that featured a panel of speakers on topics such as NCVRW, victims' rights and compensation, safety awareness, victims' legal rights, and mental health and wellness. They also held a Victim Awareness Day that included information on victim services, as well as an open mic, karaoke, and arts and crafts.
- Iowa Safe Schools partnered with the Iowa Coalition for Collective Change to host a mini-talk and reception with lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer students to discuss the NCVRW theme. Speakers for the event highlighted those who have made significant contributions to this work. Their speeches were recorded and posted on social media.
- The Kaw Nation Family Trauma Healing Center in Newkirk, Oklahoma, held a memorial ceremony and inter-tribal dance to raise awareness of missing/ murdered indigenous women. At the event, the Chair of the Kaw Nation read the NCVRW proclamation, followed by a Chair Ceremony that honored victims of domestic violence, human trafficking, elder abuse, child abuse, and missing and murdered children of indigenous women. Native American singers and drummers played cultural music while community members enjoyed inter-tribal dancing.
- In Fitchburg, Massachusetts, the L.U.K. Crisis Center held a public resource fair and hosted an interactive panel discussion and a candlelight vigil. Fair participants were able to engage with community partners, gather information about victim services, and enter a drawing for a chance to win a small prize. The interactive panel talked about strategies for providing hope for survivors, how the community can support



survivors better, and strategies to reduce stigma. At the candlelight vigil, attendees were given candles to hold while names were read and a moment of silence was observed. The event was promoted on the agency’s website, social media, and fliers.

- The Lake County State’s Attorney’s Office in Florida held a public event during NCVRW that included a speaker on crime prevention and the presentation of an award that recognized someone in the community who had gone above and beyond to help victims. Local social service agencies were also present to provide information about the services and resources available. NCVRW giveaways were distributed throughout the NCVRW campaign and at the public event.
- The Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence held three trauma-informed yoga classes for the public during NCVRW. Each participant received a reusable NCVRW-themed grocery bag that also included information about local resources, a rack card with information about victims’ rights and NCVRW, and a water bottle.
- The Network for Victim Recovery of DC (NVRDC) and its partners hosted a kick-off event for NCVRW by introducing a community-created exhibit for the public, advocates, and survivors. The “Honoring Our Past. Creating Hope for the Future: An Interactive Timeline,” was part art, part history, and part letters of hope for the future. NVRDC staff participated in D.C.’s NCVRW Metro Day of Action, where they and partner organizations dressed in NCVRW colored t-shirts and handed out NCVRW fliers and promotional materials to metro commuters. NVRDC also conducted a targeted promotion of NCVRW and D.C. crime victims’ rights and services on social media.
- Philadelphia’s North Central Victim Services hosted its Third Annual Women’s Empowerment Conference during NCVRW. The event provided an opportunity for women to discuss their victimization and develop an understanding of how trauma may impact their lives. Resources for developing life skills also were disseminated.
- In Islandia, New York, the Victims Information Bureau of Suffolk, Inc., held an NCVRW awareness event that included a panel discussion of representatives from law enforcement and community organizations. Speakers at the event included a survivor, a county legislator, and a victim advocate.
- The Racine County Victim Witness Assistance Program in Wisconsin hosted a community awareness event in partnership with local community agencies that provide services to victims of crime. Event activities included a tour of the Mobile Command Unit, resource tables sponsored by local agencies, a self-defense demonstration, a bike safety presentation, child ID kits, face painting, and a prescription drug drop-off. Attendees received NCVRW promotional items such as stress balls, backpacks, lanyards, spinners, water bottles, and pop sockets.
- River House, Inc., and the Northern Michigan Children’s Assessment Center held a Pinwheels for Prevention awareness activity that focused on child abuse prevention, and a mock trial to educate people on the court process. They also hosted a women’s self-defense seminar and a Day of Nurturing, which included speakers, information on self-care, and an “open mic” for victims/survivors to tell their stories.
- The San Juan Bautista School of Medicine–Puerto Rico Health Justice Center conducted a one-day public event during NCVRW at a local shopping mall. Community-based organizations and agencies that address the needs of vulnerable populations had display tables with information, resources, and services for victims of crime. There were also short sessions with victim testimonies and talks by professionals and experts about the services available. Attendees received a victims’ rights and laws brochure and other educational materials, and promotional items such as USB car adapters, lip balm, sunscreen, lunch bags, and pens and pencils.
- The Sexual Assault Resource Agency in Virginia kicked off NCVRW with a Community Day focused on crime prevention, which included child fingerprinting by law enforcement, a distracted driving simulator, an NCVRW t-shirt contest, and a K9 demonstration.



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Local organizations staffed booths and provided information on victims' rights and the services they provide to victims.

- The Sexual Assault Victim Advocacy Center in Colorado held an Annual Todos Unidos event during NCVRW in two counties. The bilingual conference focused on victims' rights and the immigrant and Spanish-speaking communities. Multiple community partners were speakers at the event, providing information on community services, resources, and legal services. Childcare was provided to help eliminate barriers for those wanting to attend the event.
- In the weeks leading up to NCVRW, the Shafer Center for Crisis Intervention in Mississippi coordinated an office contest throughout four counties, challenging various businesses and their employees to wear NCVRW t-shirts on a designated day during NCVRW. They took group employee photos of the participating businesses and shared them via social media and in offices.
- In Albany, New York, the Trinity Alliance of the Capital Region (Urban Grief) conducted a Hope After Homicide education event, where a guest speaker provided education to service providers, professionals, and communities on what they need to know to support survivors of violence. The alliance also held a Faith Community Education Event for faith leaders and congregants on trauma related to violence and victimization, and provided information on the resources available. Community service awards were given to those making a difference. They also conducted a Community Outreach Day, where volunteers canvassed high-crime neighborhoods to give out victim resource information.
- The Utah Office for Victims of Crime hosted a Utah Grizzlies NCVRW Kick-Off Event that began with a press conference with local leaders. At the beginning of the game, an NCVRW announcement was made and a crime victim performed the ceremonial puck drop. An information booth was set up in the concessions area.
- In Nevada, Winnemucca Domestic Violence Services hosted a "Clothesline Project," where victims of crime and their families decorated t-shirts that were hung in

town, and a Party in the Park that included games and prizes, face painting, crafts, and information booths.

## **Resource Fairs and Education**

- The Clemson City Police Department in South Carolina hosted two free, women-only self-defense classes. Each participant received an NCVRW reusable bag filled with promotional materials. The police department also hosted an informational session on identity theft prevention and recovery for 70 senior citizens, and staffed an informational booth at a Picnic in the Park event, where they distributed NCVRW t-shirts and promotional items and discussed victims' rights, crime prevention, and NCVRW with attendees.
- In Oregon, Community Works, Inc., collaborated with the Jackson County Victim Assistance Program and the Children's Advocacy Center of Jackson County to hold a Victims' Rights Summit, where organizations distributed information on their services and provided assistance to victims who wanted to access them, gain a better understanding of their rights, and/or complete victim compensation requests. The event was promoted through social media, traditional media, and networking with colleagues.
- Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio (CLUES), in Minnesota, collaborated with the local police department to host an event entitled "Un Mejor Manana" (A Better Tomorrow), where they presented information from various community organizations. It included a panel of speakers with an attorney from legal aid, a mental health provider, a sexual health educator, and a male survivor of sexual assault.
- The Oklahoma Eighth District Attorney's Office held two Victims' Resource Fairs, where service agencies could set up booths and distribute information on the resources available. Attendees received an NCVRW t-shirt and a tote bag containing an NCVRW-themed stress ball, items provided by local service agencies, and a wristband imprinted with "Creating hope for the future."



- In Texas, the Galveston County Criminal District Attorney’s Office held a “Together We Can” resource fair that included information booths and activities for children, as well as the 17th Annual Victims’ Luncheon honoring and remembering victims. They also held a poster and art contest for students affected by a mass shooting at the local middle and high schools.
- The Gloucester Township Police Department in Clementon, New Jersey, held a resource fair to kick off NCVRW and raise awareness of the effects of domestic violence, child abuse, and victimization from any crime. They released victim services videos on Facebook to inform the public about the services they provide, held a victims’ roundtable to gain insight into how they can better assist victims, conducted a Domestic Violence Response Team summit, and hosted a luncheon with students.
- The Jefferson County Sheriff’s Office in Alabama and the participating agencies in the Coordinated Community Response partnered to promote NCVRW by holding the Second Annual “One Heart in the Park” event. Thirty-five agency participants set up booths and tents and handed out agency information and NCVRW promotional giveaways. A Memorial Tent was set up at the crime victim memorial, where crime victims and loved ones could make artwork and posters or display pictures. The day’s events included streaming music and local dignitaries speaking on victim services and therapy animals.
- In Arizona, the Pinal County Attorney’s Office participated in a resource fair, where they staffed a booth and disseminated resources, NCVRW promotional giveaways, and a booklet for victims about their courthouse dog, Pilot, who was also present at the resource fair.
- The Salt Lake Area Domestic Violence Coalition collaborated with local service providers to host a Self-Care Fair during NCVRW at a major shopping center. At the fair, different stations provided information, instruction, and workshops on self-care outlets such as physical activity, yoga, mindfulness, music, creativity/ art, writing, meditation, pampering, humor, animals, and creating a self-care plan. Art and public awareness materials about victimization were also displayed.
- The San Francisco District Attorney’s Office, Victim Services Division held an NCVRW event that included 3 guest speakers, 2 artists, and information tables for 12 community agencies that shared and provided resources and referrals. Attendees received promotional NCVRW tote bags. The Victim Services Division promoted the event by speaking with community members and handing out NCVRW bookmarks at five transit stations.
- The St. Louis Circuit Attorney’s Office–Victim Services partnered with local community agencies to host an NCVRW Closing Fair. Attendees received an NCVRW tote bag that included NCVRW promotional items, a card listing victims’ rights, a resource card with contact information for participating organizations, and an agenda for the event. Four professional panelists answered questions about their experiences in the field, and five victims/survivors spoke of their victimization and accessing services and resources. Participating organizations had informational tables about the services available to victims.
- The Stanislaus County District Attorney’s Office in California, along with the Stanislaus Family Justice Center, hosted a Victims’ Rights Rally & Family Safety Fair during NCVRW. The event included featured speaker Brooks Douglas, musical performances, kids’ activities, and a balloon release ceremony honoring victims of crime. Community-based organizations staffed information tables, law enforcement hosted a bike rodeo for children, and firefighters demonstrated hazards and safety in the home.
- In South Dakota, the Winner Resource Center for Families held two resource fairs where collaborating organizations from social services and child protection, early childhood educators, and mental health counselors hosted tables. They also set up information tables at two county courthouses, with crime victim brochures, service information, and NCVRW giveaways.



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## ***Walks, Runs, and Rallies***

- The Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association in Anchorage, Alaska, hosted an NCVRW Awareness Walk, where NCVRW t-shirts, buttons, and hats were given to participants.
- In Florida, the 19th Judicial Circuit Victims' Rights Coalition held a Walk for Justice, where laminated signs with important dates in victims' rights history—as well as messages, letters, and photos submitted by victims—were created and placed along the walking route, which ended at a resource fair. They also sponsored a national motivational speaker/DUI homicide survivor to speak to students, faculty, and the public at a local high school.
- The 3rd Judicial District Attorney's Office collaborated with many agencies to kick off NCVRW with a walk/expo. The event included informational booths, guest speakers, a memorial video, and presentations by multiple agencies. NCVRW t-shirts and promotional items were given to each attendee. The event was publicized through fliers, radio, mailing lists, and social media.
- The Clemson City Police Department in South Carolina cohosted the second annual Tutu March, where officers, firefighters, and city officials marched in tutus to raise awareness of violence against women. All participants received an NCVRW reusable bag with NCVRW promotional materials. The event concluded with a free outdoor movie.
- In Brownsville, Texas, Friendship of Women, Inc., held a Take Back the Night Block Party during NCVRW. Community organizations set up resource tables, and a dance performance touched on the message of honoring our past and creating hope for our future. Mass media advertising was used to promote the event and raise awareness of NCVRW.
- In California, the Hopland Band of Pomo Indians' victim services program held a 5K run/walk and resource fair during NCVRW. Participants had access to service providers and victims' rights information, and received t-shirts and totes.
- Connecticut's Human Resources Agency of New Britain, Inc., held a walk-a-thon to culminate NCVRW. The event included victims/survivors and other guest speakers and information booths with local victim service providers. Participants received NCVRW t-shirts and tote bags.
- The Otoe-Missouria Tribe held an NCVRW walk to recognize loved ones who were victims of crime. Participants made signs to recognize individuals and specific crimes. Attendees received an NCVRW tote bag.
- The YWCA of Wheeling, West Virginia, hosted a "Reality At A Glance" Walking Tour during NCVRW that highlighted four major crimes (domestic violence, hate crimes, human trafficking, and substance abuse) while promoting public awareness of all types of crime and highlighting the rights and services available for all victims. During the walking tour, groups were led to five different live demonstrations that portrayed crimes taking place and what the victims go through. Advocates were on hand to discuss victims' rights and the services available to victims. Project partners videotaped the portrayals and attendees' responses. The videos were combined into an awareness film that will be shown at various events throughout the year.

## ***Vigils and Memorial Ceremonies***

- The Cherokee County Sheriff's Office, in collaboration with the District Attorney, the Office of the Solicitor General, and the Domestic Violence Task Force, sponsored a candlelight vigil to honor survivors of crime. It featured a reading of the Crime Victims' Bill of Rights and speeches from local politicians as well as individuals affected by domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and other crimes.
- In Florida, the 19th Judicial Circuit Victims' Rights Coalition held NCVRW events in each county in the district. Events included a Resource Fair and Proclamation Event, a Victims' Rights Courthouse Vigil and Proclamation Ceremony, and a Victims' Rights Vigil to honor homicide victims and all crime victims. The events included proclamation readings and distinguished speakers.



- New Mexico’s 12th Judicial District Attorney’s Office held two candlelight vigils during NCVRW. At both events, victims’ and survivors’ names were read, and victim service providers distributed informational resources and NCVRW promotional items such as bracelets, pens, bags, notepads, and magnets. A glass memorial was created, and the names of family members who were victims of homicide will be added to the memorial.
- In Nevada, the Alliance for Victims’ Rights hosted its 26th Annual Candlelight Vigil during NCVRW. Eleven individuals and agencies/organizations received “Bringing Respect and Honor to Victims Awards” for contributing to the empowerment and healing of victims. A family was also honored with a plaque that hangs in the Holly Quick Memorial Garden. To advertise for the event, NCVRW-themed invitations were sent to community members and dignitaries and large posters were placed around town.
- The Child Advocacy Center of Lapeer County, Michigan, hosted a candlelight vigil during NCVRW that featured speeches from four victims/survivors of crime, as well as an open mic opportunity for other victims/survivors to come forward and share their experiences. NCVRW tote bags containing informational brochures, a candle, matches, and a colorful glow stick were distributed to attendees.
- The Crime Victims Assistance Association of Arkansas coordinated with Parents of Murdered Children to host an NCVRW opening ceremony that featured speeches by state and local officials and a survivor of homicide, followed by a remembrance ceremony for victims of homicide. They also held a candlelight vigil for victims and their families.
- The Delaware Department of Justice, with support from the Delaware Victims’ Rights Task Force, held a Victims’ Tribute in Dover, the state capital. The tribute included a keynote speaker and resource tables for agencies that work with victims.
- Family Service of Rhode Island, in collaboration with the Rhode Island Crime Victim Service Provider Steering Committee, held a ceremony to honor Rhode Island victims and survivors of crime and the organizations that serve them. They also held an NCVRW dedication ceremony at the Providence Public Safety Complex.
- The Office of the Richmond County District Attorney, of Staten Island, held an Eco Dove release honoring the lives of loved ones impacted by crime. They also hosted a dedication of a Victims’ Memorial Garden, as well as a candlelight vigil with information and resource tables staffed by victim service organizations. Attendees received NCVRW promotional materials.
- In Indiana, the Fort Wayne Police Department’s Victim Assistance Program held a candlelight vigil at the county courthouse. The event included the reading of the NCVRW Proclamation, as well as speeches by local officials, victims and survivors, law enforcement, and advocates. Attendees received NCVRW t-shirts.
- In Anchorage, Alaska, Victims for Justice held a Tree Ceremony where state leaders and community members tied remembrance ribbons on the “tree of life” to honor victims of violent crimes. Each ribbon color tied to the tree represented a specific crime (e.g., child abuse, DUI, domestic violence, sexual assault, and crimes against law enforcement).
- Victims of Crime and Leniency organized and participated in several NCVRW events, including a Governor’s Proclamation signing; the Voice for Victims Awards, held at the Alabama capitol; and a candlelight vigil/victims’ memorial. To promote the week, NCVRW book covers and poster boards were distributed to the county’s public libraries, public schools, and regional domestic violence shelters.



**Seek Justice | Ensure Victims’ Rights | Inspire Hope**

- In Texas, the Webb County Sheriff's Office held several events during NCVRW, including a memorial service, information booths, and a candlelight vigil and butterfly release. The week's events were advertised through a mass media campaign that included newspapers and seven digital billboards.

## ***Youth and College Engagement***

- The Aleutian Pribilof Islands Association in Anchorage, Alaska, held an NCVRW student poster contest for grades 1–5 and an essay contest for grades 6–12. Awards were presented during NCVRW and all entries were displayed at local NCVRW awareness booths/tables.
- In Iowa, Nisaa African Family Services, in partnership with the Genesis Youth Foundation, hosted a soccer tournament during NCVRW with African immigrant and refugee youth. A speaker talked about the impact of violence, the effect it can have on youth, and how to break the cycle of abuse. NCVRW-themed t-shirts and buttons were available at the event.
- North Central Victim Services, in Philadelphia, hosted a men's panel for male students at a local high school during NCVRW, which included four community leaders discussing mental health, coping skills, community safety, and a commitment not to engage in violence. They also hosted their Fourth Annual Kickball Challenge, with elementary students partnering with law enforcement.
- In New York, the Office of the Richmond County District Attorney worked with local schools and teachers to create lesson plans that incorporated crime victim awareness and facilitate their involvement in a student art and poetry contest. Winners of the contest were presented with certificates.

