



# Victim Services Conference 2022 Webinar Series Summary

**283** Victim Service Professionals



**9** Sessions offered



**11.5** total hours of training



**61%** attended 2 or more Sessions  
(tripled compared to last year)

TOP COMMENTS

*“I so wish that people outside of this field could receive training and understanding of how historical trauma, racism and oppression affect individuals, households and communities.”*

*“Very important subject material that touches more lives than the current pandemic; trauma is the hidden in plain sight pandemic of our time.”*

*“I loved the opportunity to hear the firsthand experiences and perspectives of survivors of DV in the community and think it really helped round out the victim services conference series!”*

## 1/26 **Victims' Compensation Assistance Program: A Review of Legislative Changes and What You Need to Know About Them**

**Speaker:** Paige Schmittinger, Victims' Compensation Assistance Program

**Description:** In October 2021, HB 182 was signed into law, aiming to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the Delaware Victims' Compensation Assistance Program. Attendees of this webinar gained a greater understanding of the legislative changes and how these changes positively impact the victims we serve.

## 2/17 **Exploring the Effects of Trauma (3-parts)**

**Speaker:** Kiera McGillivray & Shannon Fisch, Children & Families First

**Description:** This three-part series explored the effects of trauma on the brain, starting with a session discussing the neuroscience of toxic stress and inequity. Session two explored the relationship between adversity and resiliency. The third session emphasized the importance of self-care in combatting vicarious trauma and burn-out.

## 3/2 **The Lethality Assessment Protocol (LAP): What it is and how it helps Victim Service Providers**

**Speaker:** Gary Melvin, Delaware Capitol Police

**Description:** This session provided an overview of the Lethality Assessment Protocol (LAP) that Delaware Law Enforcement agencies began using in 2010 to support victims of domestic violence. The session described how law enforcement responded to the adoption of the LAP, how its usage benefits victims of domestic violence, and how it helps officers collaborate with local Victim Services programs.

## 3/31 **Service and Advocacy for Delaware's Latin@ Survivors: Why access to multicultural, multidisciplinary, trauma-sensitive services is important**

**Speakers:** Maite Aros, Child, Inc.; Pedro Torres, New Castle County Police Victim Services; Kathleen Seipel, Amanecer Counseling and Resource Center

**Description:** This webinar discussed strategies to make Delaware victim services more accessible for Latin@ survivors. The session provided trauma-informed strategies to increase language and service access to the Latin@ community using a multidisciplinary team of providers.

4/5

## Lethal Violence Protection Orders: What they are and why they matter to Victim Service providers

**Speaker:** Traci Murphy, Delaware Coalition Against Gun Violence

**Description:** This session focused on Lethal Violence Protection Orders (LVPOs), sometimes referred to as “red flag laws.” LVPOs are a useful tool in crisis management and violence prevention when firearms are easily accessible during a time of crisis. This introductory session provided critical information about LVPOs in Delaware and how/when service providers can access them.

5/19

## The Myths and Benefits of working with an Outside Advocacy Team

**Speaker:** Alisa O’Neill, MADD Mid-Atlantic Victim Services

**Description:** This presentation provided an overview of Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), a summary of MADD resources for victims, and a discussion about how working with an outside advocacy group on a case can benefit local service providers—as well as the victim and their family. This session was designed for community-based and system-based advocates working directly with victims to provide holistic wraparound services.

6/15

## Survivors Speak: Comparing Outcomes & Experiences of Domestic Violence Survivors

**Moderated by:** Paola Pacheco-Vazquez

**Description:** In the final Victim Services Conference webinar of 2022, we heard from a panel of survivors. This moderated discussion provided insight into individual experiences of domestic violence, the services that survivors received, and the solidarity of one community’s response to support them. Language access in both English and Spanish was offered.



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