



NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

APRIL 24-30, 2022

A Presentation to the
Nevada County Board of
Supervisors

April 12, 2022

WHAT IS NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK (NCVRW)?

JESSE WILSON, DISTRICT ATTORNEY



- ❖ Established nationally in 1981;
- ❖ NCVRW 2022 theme: *Rights, Access, Equity, for all victims;*
- ❖ Mission of NCVRW:
 - To make visible the varying components of victimization and effects of victimization, as well as promote avenues for helping victims recover from crime;
 - To renew our nation's commitment to ensure all victims are informed of their rights and have access to available services; and
 - To honor past crime victims, here and gone.

OUR LOCAL VICTIM WITNESS ASSISTANCE CENTER

- ❖ More than 35 years strong;
- ❖ Two full time advocates, two part time advocates;
- ❖ Grant funded through Victims of Crime Act (VOCA);
- ❖ In 2021 we provided services to 936 victims of crime in the Nevada City office and an additional 83 from the Truckee office; serving a total of 1,019 Victims in 2021 alone;
- ❖ Primary types of services:
 - Court Accompaniment;
 - Information and Referrals;
 - Outreach and Education;
 - California Victim Compensation Board (CalVCB) Assistance; and
 - Emotional Support.
- ❖ Sharing resources.



NEVADA COUNTY VICTIM WITNESS ASSISTANCE CENTER

LORI NUNNINK, SENIOR VICTIM ADVOCATE



❖ Current activity:

- VWAC has implemented it's first Victim Advocate Intern;
- In collaboration with Probation, we are developing a pilot Restorative Justice program;
- Continuing collaborating with Nevada County Children's Behavioral Health to develop a Crisis Response and Mass Victimization Response Plan (MVRP), funded through CalOES; and
- Continuing cultivation with community partners to increase development of a comprehensive victim advocacy program that meets the needs of our increasingly diverse population.

CHILD ADVOCATES OF NEVADA COUNTY(CASA)

MARINA BERNHEIMER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



- ❖ CASAs serve children who are victims of criminal abuse and/or neglect:
 - Weekly contacts/visits;
 - Stabilization of children's lives after victimization;
 - Emotional support;
 - "Eyes and ears of the judge, and the voice of the child";
 - Increased access to court-ordered services;
 - Mental Health and health advocacy;
 - Educational advocacy; and
 - Help victims understand the Dependency Court system;

- ❖ VOCA allows us to serve 100% of children in dependency court; and
- ❖ VOCA allows us to help meet children's basic needs.

COMMUNITY BEYOND VIOLENCE (CBV)

STEPHANIE FISCHER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



- ❖ Community Beyond Violence has been serving victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in Western Nevada County since 1978;
- ❖ Crisis Intervention Services: Emergency shelter/food/transportation/clothing, safety planning, crisis counseling, 24 hour crisis line, legal advocacy and accompaniment, response to law enforcement and medical facilities; and
- ❖ Prevention Services: Community organizing, engagement with high schools and Sierra College, response to campus staff for student counseling

SIERRA COMMUNITY HOUSE

ELIZABETH BALMIN

MEDIATION & LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM DIRECTOR,
CRISIS INTERVENTION AND FAMILY ADVOCACY



- ❖ Background: July 1, 2019 Consolidation of Tahoe SAFE Alliance, Project MANA, the North Tahoe Family Resource Center, and the Family Resource Center of Truckee;
- ❖ Services provided by Sierra Community House: Crisis Intervention and Prevention, Hunger Relief, Mediation and Legal Assistance, and Family Support and Community Engagement; and
- ❖ Contact: www.sierracommunityhouse.org; koriol@sierracommunityhouse.org; 800-736-1060 (24-Hour Community Helpline).

NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT APRIL 24-30, 2022



- ❖ KNCO interview Guests:
 - Monday, April 25 – DA Wilson, Lori Nunnink & Fred Viola, Nevada County Probation Dpt. – Restorative Justice
 - Tuesday, April 26 – Lori Nunnink & Stephanie Fischer, Community Beyond Violence
 - Wednesday, April 27 – VWAC Team
 - Thursday, April 28 – Lori Nunnink & Melinda Douros, CASA
 - Friday, April 29 – VWAC Team
- ❖ Social Media Presence – To include NCVRW daily representation from VWAC clients;
 - Facebook
 - County Website
- ❖ Awareness wrist bands were distributed throughout the community.
- ❖ Nevada County Connects bus advertising (April 1-June 30)

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED
SUPPORT AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
OF CRIME VICTIMS AND CRIME
VICTIM SERVICE PROVIDERS**

For more information or services, please contact
The Victim Witness Assistance Center
(530) 265-1301 or victim.witness@co.nevada.ca.us