



National Association of Victim Service Professionals in Corrections

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www.navspic.org

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West Virginia
Wisconsin

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

Dear Colleagues,

WHAT AN EXCITING TIME FOR NAVSPIC!! Our first conference last October was a huge success, great information was shared and we elected our very first official Board!

I am truly honored to serve as the Chairperson of the NAVSPIC Board, and look forward to continuing to strengthen our association along with the other Board Members and many of you who have graciously become involved on various committees or projects, volunteering your time, because you too understand the importance of us continuing to build our professional network.

As you might imagine, as a Board, we have many important issues we must work through, and we wish we could tackle them all at once. We felt it was critical that we first outline our vision for NAVSPIC and establish priorities. Through some initial strategic planning discussions, here is our two to five year plan of what activities we will work on:

FIRST YEAR:

- ★ Formally establishing NAVSPIC's nonprofit status
- ★ Developing a policy repository on the NAVSPIC website so members can more effectively benchmark what states are doing in relation to issues they may be currently pursuing
- ★ Establishing Best Practices in various areas for members to have available as they build their own programs. The issues that will be focused on this first year are:
 - Victim Notification
 - Impact of Crime Programming
 - Restitution

SECOND YEAR:

- ★ Strengthening NAVSPIC's mentoring program
- ★ Continue identifying Best Practices in these areas:
 - Program marketing strategies
 - Workplace violence
 - Prison visitation issues for victims
 - Victims' involvement in Executions

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History and Birth of the National Association of NAVSPIC

By Karin Ho

Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction



One of the most challenging aspects of being an advocate within corrections is the feeling of being alone, or working in a vacuum. While you are a victim advocate through and through, the community-based advocates working in a prosecutor's office or a domestic violence shelter sometimes have a difficult time relating to issues corrections-based advocates face everyday. The working environments are totally different and the needs of the victims each are working with can be very different.

Early on, many of us working as corrections-based victim advocates had the opportunity through the support of the Office for Victims of Crime and the National Institute of Justice to have training and technical support through a series of national gatherings. I can only describe these face to face meetings with other advocates as 'magical' and extremely validating professionally. Victim advocates working within correctional agencies are not only providing direct services to victims related to incarcerated offenders or those under community supervision, but they often find themselves facing new challenges that could have never been imagined by the earliest pioneers of the Victims' Rights Movement. While services being provided by each state may vary, the extreme directions of their work are very much common.

To represent the voice of the victim, these advocates must be willing to speak out when necessary to help ensure correctional agencies understand the impact of their practices on victims and their families. In my opinion, the most vibrant, effective correctional systems will make decisions that are informed by all perspectives. The overall objective needs to be one of public safety and offender rehabilitation and accountability. Victim advocates, inmate advocates and allied professionals

from every vantage point are critical to the process. Successful correctional agencies do not fear voices of opposition, but embrace the differences and all work together to make the best decisions possible that, to the extent possible, accommodate the needs of each and respect the experiences of each.

Going back to the 1980's, those few victim advocates within correctional agencies knew instantly that it would be critical to maintain contact nationally. There were a core group of individuals who got together every chance they could while at national conferences or meetings on other business. They would have breakfast meetings, or while other people were out dining and dancing the evening away, they would gather in one of the hotel rooms and have intense discussions about how to form a national association that would specifically address the needs of victim advocates in corrections. Those small conversations over the years turned into deeper planning sessions to formalize a professional organization and by the mid-1990's it became known as "The National Association of Victim Service Professionals in Corrections." It is impossible to recognize each and every person who had a part in building this Association, but no one can argue that Denise Giles from Maine and William Stutz from Washington State should forever be recognized as the true pioneers who conceived of the idea and were steadfast advocates to see their vision of an Association become a reality. Additionally, two of the most dedicated professionals who have done more than nearly anyone to inform correctional administrators about the need for victim advocates to exist within corrections are Anne Seymour and Trudy Gregorie. They have traveled the nation, literally, for nearly two decades now, meeting with correctional administrators and victim ad-

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Conference Meetings Update

By Traci Dory

Nevada Department of Corrections

The 1st Annual National Association of Victim Service Professionals in Corrections brought with it our first business meeting as a full-fledged organization.

Our first meeting had welcoming remarks from Bill Stutz, Acting Chairman & Treasurer. Bill was one of the founding members of our organization and one of the strong forces in the conference being a reality. Bill provided the membership with the very first treasurer's report.

Another milestone for us was our very first election of officers. The following individuals were elected by the membership:

Treasurer: Bill Stutz, retired, Washington
Secretary: Traci Dory, Nevada Department of Corrections
Vice Chair: Kathy Buckley, Pennsylvania Department of Corrections
Chair: Karin Ho, Ohio Department of Rehabilitation & Correction

Now, that is when those of us on the conference planning committee realized that we were truly a bona fide organization—a full-fledged business meeting complete with a treasurer's report, elections and planning for the future.

At the conclusion of the conference, we had a wrap-up meeting in order to give the membership the opportunity to decide where we go from here. Peter Michaud from New Hampshire provided the membership with information about the newly constructed website for the organization at www.navspic.org. Visit it often!!

The following committees were formed during the meeting:

By-Laws Membership Standards – ACA Conference

With the formation of those committees, came the following volunteers willing to be a part of them [with the chairperson bolded]:

By-Laws:
Sharon Daurelle, UT
Peter Michaud, NH
Jean Wall, LA
Mark Lazarus, FL

Membership/Newsletter:
Jennie Marsh, KS
Debi Neighoff, MD
Kirsten Schuricht, OH

2008 Conference:
Sheryl DeMott TN
Kari Filicky, OH
Erin Gaffney, MA
Betty Brown, IA
Mary Roche, IA

**Standards-ACA/ASCA/
APPA/ISC/NIC**
Rose Young, CO
Victoria Sostack, PA
Stena Beltz, NE
Trudy Gregorie, DC
Sharon Daurelle, UT

It was also decided that an evaluation should be sent to the membership regarding the conference as well as ideas for next year's conference.

Our new Chairman, Karin Ho, thanked everyone for attending and being a part of this momentous occasion!

Conference Update

By Traci Dory

Nevada Department of Corrections

Our first annual conference was held October 19 and 20, 2007, in Orlando, Florida. Bill Stutz, Chairperson, welcomed everyone to the conference. Kathleen Von Hoene, General Counsel, Florida Department of Corrections, welcomed everyone to Florida. Our Keynote Speaker was The Honorable John W. Gillis, Director, Office for Victims of Crime. The guest speaker was Lois Fraley. Ms. Fraley provided an inspirational and poignant discussion, and made us all realize why it is we picked this field of work.

The afternoon sessions on the first day were presented by *uber*-mentors, Anne Seymour and Trudy Gregorie. Anne's first topic was Involving Victims in Decision-Making Processes. The afternoon wrapped up with Anne and Trudy discussing the Prison Rape Elimination Act.

Friday night brought a banquet sponsored by Appriss, Inc. Jennifer Recktenwald with Appriss welcomed the members and thanked everyone for the work we do. Trudy Gregorie presided over the new officer installation ceremony.

Saturday brought the following workshops:

Emerging Issues

Restitution Issues, presented by Kathy Buckley, Tessa Mosher, and Mark Lazarus

Work Place Violence presented by Trudy Gregorie of Justice Solutions

Mass Victimization presented by Karin Ho

Reentry and Services to Victims

Re-Entry and Victim Issues presented by Crystal Garland and Hope Glassberg of the Council of State Governments Justice Center

Victim Visitation Issues: A Facilitated Discussion by Peter Michaud

Offenders Giving Back to Victims presented by Dan Levey and Karyn Lathan

The final plenary session of the day was Impact of Crime Programming presented by Jill Weston of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

Based on the evaluations received about the conference, it was apparent that the members present for the conference felt it was a good first effort and were supportive of a conference in 2008.

Victim Services in Corrections Around the Country

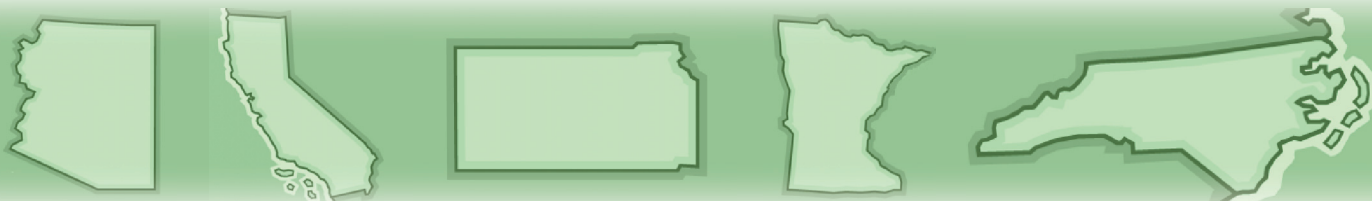
Arizona

The restorative justice program in Arizona holds offenders directly accountable to victims and the community they harmed. Through restorative justice programs, inmates throughout the state have made furniture and other items to be donated, and they have conducted fundraisers in which they donated more than \$400,000 to victim agencies during fiscal year 2007 alone. In November 2007, Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD), the Department of Corrections, and the Governor's Office worked together on a restorative justice project to honor Tiffany Archer, a victim of a drunk driver killed in 2005. Three inmates created a headstone for Tiffany, spending more than 300 hours designing and carving it from flagstone, the first headstone made by Arizona inmates.

California

California's Restitution, Accounting, and Canteen System.

This year, the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) is rolling out RACS, a new Restitution, Accounting, and Canteen System. After 16 years of collecting restitution from inmates using each facility's separate data system, this new \$16 million, six-



year project puts into place a modern data system which combines all 34 prisons' canteens, inmate banking accounts, and restitution collection processes into a single centralized database in CDCR headquarters. The project is paid for entirely through restitution administrative fees and prisons' canteen profits. There are no taxpayer general funds involved. For more information, contact Terry Boehme, Restitution Services Manager, Office of Victim and Survivor Rights and Services, CDCR at (916) 341-7063 or terry.boehme@cdcr.ca.gov.

Restitution Collection

The California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) began collecting restitution for crime victims in 1992. Since that time, the amount collected has steadily grown to \$1.7 million dollars per month. The collection program began as a 20% garnishment of prison wages only. Today, the program includes 50% of inmate wages and deposits which come from outside the prisons, collections on restitution payable to specific victims named in court orders, collections while on parole, and partnership with California tax authorities who help with collection. To date, the Department has collected \$141,140,694 in restitution. For more information, contact Terry Boehme, Restitution Services Manager, Office of Victim and Survivor Rights and Services, CDCR at (916) 341-7063 or terry.boehme@cdcr.ca.gov.

Kansas

The Office of Victim Services at the Kansas Department of Corrections currently has three Victim Services Facility Liaison positions working out of correctional facilities. These positions join the four Parole Liaisons positions already in existence. The Facility Liaisons are responsible for screening every release plan on a monthly basis and working with victims to ensure that safe-

ty concerns are addressed before reentry occurs. The Liaisons also work with victims who request visits or contact with inmates, or request that contact be ceased. They also provide training and consultation for facility staff on victim safety issues. Between January 1, 2008 and March 31, 2008, the three Liaisons provided services to 181 victims and screened 579 release plans. For more information, please contact Jennie Marsh, Director of the Office of Victim Services, at (785) 296-7429 or jenniew@doc.ks.gov

Minnesota

The Minnesota Department of Corrections commemorated National Crime Victims Rights Week 2008 by hosting a series of events at the correctional facilities. All facilities invited speakers to present to offenders and staff, with topics included impaired driving, victim impact and empathy, apology letters, motivation for change and violence in the homes. Several facilities also featured displays commemorating victims—an empty shoe display representing victims of sexual assault; a tree with white ribbons for the 2008 Minnesota victims of domestic violence, and offender art and writing. Correctional facilities in Stillwater, Moose Lake, St. Cloud and Lino Lakes donated offender-raised funds to victim advocacy organizations, such as Minnesotans for Safe Driving. Offenders also raised money to provide stipends for the speakers who presented during NCVRW.

North Carolina

Outreach and call volume with the Office of Victim Services in the NC Department of Correction will increase with the addition of an Hispanic Outreach Specialist, which is a new position granted by the 2007 NC General Assembly. This position is necessary to meet the needs

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OFFICERS



OFFICER BIOS

Karin Ho- Chairperson (far left)

Karin has been the Administrator of the Office of Victim Services within the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction since 1995. In addition to overseeing direct services to crime victims in Ohio, Karin also provides technical assistance to other state correctional agencies as they have implemented victim service programs. Karin has also conducted several national trainings. Prior to starting her career in corrections, she worked as a victim advocate for over ten years in Ohio and New York.

Traci Dory- Secretary (second from left)

Traci became the Victim Services Officer for the Nevada Department of Corrections in January 2003. She has developed and expanded services for victims of crime, and provides training to NDOC staff regarding

victim issues. She belongs to numerous local boards and coalitions. Prior to her work with victims, Traci served as the Supervising Legal Secretary within the Litigation Division at the Nevada Attorney General's Office and as the Executive Assistant to the Director of the NDOC.

Kathy Buckley- Vice Chairperson (second from right)

Kathy is the Director of Victim Services for the Office of the Victim Advocate in the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections. She oversees Impact of Crime classes and the Mediation Program for Crimes of Severe Violence.

She has fifteen years of experience in the field and began her career providing direct services to victims of sexual assault and other serious crimes.

William (Bill) Stutz- Treasurer (far right)

Bill served the State of Washington and the Department of Corrections for over 33 years before retiring in 2004. During his last 16 years with the DOC, he directed the Victim Services Program. He currently serves crime victims as a consultant through "First Thoughts," as well as starting his own business in real estate. He has served as an adjunct professor, implemented statewide programs, and served on a number of statewide and national boards and organizations. He served as a faculty member for the National Center for Victims of Crime and in 2002, was awarded the Joe Kegan Award for Outstanding Victim Services in Probation and Parole by the American Probation and Parole Association.

Message From the Chairperson

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REMAINDER OF 5 YEAR VISION:

- ★ Continue Identifying Best Practices in these areas:
 - Victim safety planning/offender reentry
 - Involving victims in correctional policy decision making—how to maintain victims' issues as a priority for correctional agencies
 - Establishing victims' councils and their role within corrections
 - Victim offender dialogue
 - How to better serve underserved populations

As you can see, there are many issues that need to be addressed as we continue building the foundation of NAVSPIC. But we need everyone's help! If you are interested in getting involved in any of these areas or have recommendations along the way, please let us know! We want this to be your association and make it as useful and vibrant as possible!! The more we all benefit and grow professionally, all the better services will be throughout the nation for crime survivors throughout the corrections' process.

Sincerely,

Karin Ho
Chairperson

Conference Update

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of Hispanic victims and their families. The position will serve as a liaison and advocate for Hispanic victims and their families as well as a statewide contact for information, assistance and referrals. Additionally, outreach

History of NAVSPIC

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vocates providing technical assistance to every state in the nation, making sure they understand the importance of including victims throughout the post conviction/post adjudication process. Additionally, on their own, as they would meet new victim advocates starting programs, they would connect them to other state victim advocates to encourage mentoring and cross training among those providing the services to victims. It is through these two forces of perseverance by people like Denise and Bill who were entrenched in this work and the building of a foundation of understanding through the education of Anne and Trudy that "The National Association of Victim Service Professionals in Corrections" is quickly becoming a vibrant, national voice for our field.

The need for training and mentoring is just as important today as it was fifteen years ago. As new advocates join our field, and struggle to establish programs for victims within their state correctional agencies, we have now grown to a point where the process of connecting people is becoming more formalized. There is no need to reinvent the wheel in many areas and there are recognized best practices that victim advocates can adopt or tweak to better fit their correctional systems as they need.



programming will be developed. This position will also develop appropriate methods of delivering statutorily mandated notifications and allow for Spanish speaking victims' input into the post-sentencing process.

