



From the Director of Victim Services

Last month the United States paid homage to victims during National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW). Tennessee was no exception as four agencies collaborated and marked the week by virtually highlighting victim coordinators and service providers throughout the state in five cities (Gallatin, Jackson, Nashville, Johnson City, and Columbia). We reminded communities that victims' voices are important in the justice process and that there

are services available to assist them incorporating the theme- **Support Victims. Build Trust. Engage Communities.**

The week began with an introduction video from each departments' leader followed by Ashley's Place out of Gallatin, General Jody Pickens with the 26th Judicial District and Nita Mehr with Union University in Jackson, The Nashville Chapter of Mothers Against Drunk Driving, General Barry Staubus & Karen Musser from the Sullivan County District Attorneys Office, and Bridges Domestic Violence Center in Williamson County. The week was closed out with a final video from the planning committee members. Each video received several hundred views.

If you haven't had a chance to view the videos, it's not too late. You can go to the websites and social media pages for Tennessee Board of Parole, Tennessee Department of Correction, Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, and Tennessee Rehabilitation Initiative in Correction (TRICOR) to view the video series!

Tamika Dobbins

May 2021

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Victim Services Mission

To support victims, their families, and the laws that protect their rights, while utilizing recognized principles of offender behavioral change to help reduce the risk of repeat criminal behavior.

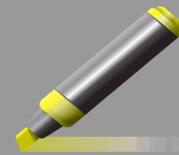
Victim Services Provides:

- Information regarding the status of offenders in prison with felony convictions
- Registration for victim notification
- Assistance with threats, unwanted calls/correspondence from an offender

Victim Services Activities:

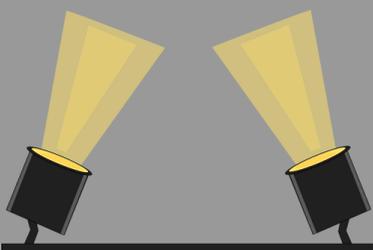
- Community education programs
- Coordination with the Board of Parole, Attorney General's Office, and the Tennessee District Attorney General's Office to respond to victims' concerns
- Education to TDOC staff to increase awareness of victims' issues
- Collaboration with other victim advocates

Victims Services Highlights....Let's meet



Cortney Inklebarger is the recently appointed Victim Services Coordinator with the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI). Her position will serve the East and Upper East Judicial District's within the state. Cortney has a Bachelor's Degree in Sociology and a Master's Degree in Criminal Justice. She has worked in Victim Services for the past seven years, including serving as an advocate for survivors of domestic violence, acting as the Program Coordinator for the Sexual Assault Center of East Tennessee, and most recently, serving as an Investigator of severe child abuse with the Department of Children's Services. Cortney is passionate about ensuring that survivors of

violence are given a voice and speaking on behalf survivors when needed. Knowing that this work can be overwhelming, Cortney makes a point to spend time with family and friends to decompress. Traveling, pets, gardening and the outdoors, and reading also bring joy to Cortney when the going gets tough. Cortney is thrilled about her new appointment with the TBI and hopes to bring just a small amount of peace when interacting with those in need.



May is Mental Health Awareness Month

Mental Health Awareness Month has been observed in May in the United States since 1949. This movement strives to reduce the stigma surrounding mental illness while raising awareness of those living with mental or behavioral health issues. The theme for 2021 is Tools 2 Thrive, with a focus on helping you find healthy ways to cope with stress. An estimated 51.5 million people in the United States live with a mental illness, which is about 20% of the adult population. Included in that is 5% of adults who experience serious mental illness. About 17% of youth ages 6 to 17 years old experience mental health issues. Anxiety disorders are the most commonly diagnosed mental health condition, affecting about 18% of the population. Other common mental health conditions include depression, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), bipolar disorder, substance use disorder, personality disorders, schizophrenia, and eating disorders. More than half of people with a mental illness don't receive treatment, according to Mental Health America, and about 10% of those with a mental illness don't have health insurance.

Whether you have a diagnosed mental illness or not, it's important to take proactive steps to manage your mental health. This can include taking time for yourself, learning new ways to cope with difficult situations, and using online mental health screening tools if you're concerned about your mental well-being. And if you do need support, there are many resources out there to help you find the care you need. For immediate assistance or to speak with a crisis counselor, contact these hotlines:

Call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255).

Contact the Crisis Text Line by texting 'HOME' to 741-741.



TDOC Central Office Monthly Stats

Telephone Calls	April	Notifications Mailed	April
Phone calls Received/Returned	150	Registrations/Voice	121
Parties Registered for Notifications (phone/mail/fax/email)	113	Movement	257
Harassment/Threats/No Contact	10	Advance Release	768
Referrals	48	Final Release *	29
Release/Parole Inquiry	52	Death	14
Other	43	Other	7

Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE)

We are still working hard to implement VINE for the department. It has been a long time coming however, the time is near. We have been meeting weekly, testing data, and collaborating with Appriss to rectify any issues found. Information about how to sign up to use this new service will be sent out to currently registered interested parties. Information will also be available on our website, tn.gov/correction under the Victim Services tab.

As part of the new version of the VINE service, we are building a Tennessee VINE/SAVIN Service Provider Directory. If you are a service provider, please join this provider directory. Your agency is invited to submit an application to join this new, comprehensive listing of victim services providers in Tennessee. By centralizing agency information, we hope the new directory will greatly improve access to victim services for VINE/SAVIN users. It will be accessible by phone, mobile app, and internet.

By participating in the directory, your organization can connect with over 145,000 VINE/SAVIN users throughout Tennessee and there is no cost for your agency to be added to the directory. Visit our landing page today to learn more about the directory and submit your application. The website is <https://apprissinsights.com/tnvine-savin>.

Announcements



A brand new socially-distanced-friendly awareness event!

Saturday, June 12, 2021

6:00 PM

Cumberland International Trucks

[980 Leeville Road, Lebanon, TN 37090](https://www.cumberlandtrucks.com/980-Leeville-Road-Lebanon-TN-37090)

Drive-In & Drive Out Trafficking is our brand new socially-distanced-friendly event that can accommodate up to 100 cars! Dine at one of the on-site food trucks, check out our special partner booths, and settle in for a **screening of I Am Jane Doe**, a documentary that chronicles the epic battle that several American mothers are waging on behalf of their middle-school daughters, victims of sex-trafficking on Backpage.com.

Film Runtime: 99 minutes.

Unrated, but recommended PG-13.

Announcements



Registration Now Open!

June 6-June 11, 2020

The University of Tennessee at Chattanooga
Chattanooga, Tennessee

Questions about applying or the Academy?

Contact Kendra Miller:

academy@tncoalition.org



Tennessee Domestic Violence Hotline - 800-356-6767

National Domestic Violence Hotline - 800.799.SAFE

Battered Women's Justice Project - 800.903.0111

Mothers Against Drunk Driving - 877.MADD.HELP

National Center for Missing and Exploited Children - 800.843.5678

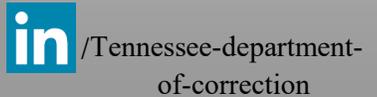
Tennessee Human Trafficking Hotline—1-855-558-6484

National Human Trafficking Hotline - 888.373.7888

Criminal Injuries Compensation: Corvel Corporation 866.960.6039

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With #TeamTDOC!

Follow Us:



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