

SOVA OUTREACH ADVOCATE EXCHANGE

Department of Administration
State Office of Victim Assistance

www.sova.sc.gov



SOVA Outreach Provided

The State Office of Victim Assistance Outreach Services continues to provide regularly scheduled site visits for the Court Based Victim Advocates and their programs in each solicitor's office. Throughout the 2nd quarter, SOVA Outreach was involved with numerous community based events setting up displays to educate the public on services available to eligible victims and their families. During this time,

the Outreach Coordinator explained the services from SOVA that may be considered for eligible victims. The Coordinator was able to reach out to approximately 150 participants educating them regarding the benefits of SOVA.

Recently, the Outreach Coordinator, on behalf of SOVA, collaborated and partnered with the 7th Judicial Circuit Solicitor's Office to coordinate a regional

training on the Victim Assistance Fines, Fees and Assessment Fund. The training event was held on December 10, 2015 in Spartanburg with 66 registered participants. The training was beneficial for all participants and provided an opportunity for great networking. The training was approved by the Office of Victim Services Education & Certification for 4 credit hours.

How Can SOVA Outreach Help You?

During a scheduled site visit with the 7th Judicial Circuit Solicitor's Office, the Outreach Coordinator and advocates discussed the possibility of partnering with the Solicitor's Office to conduct a regional training. The Deputy Director for the Solicitor's

Office agreed to collaborate with SOVA to host a training on the Victim Assistance Fines, Fees and Assessment Fund.

The Solicitor's Office was instrumental in reserving the training location and provided breakfast. The Outreach Coordinator

assisted with registration, printing certificates, evaluation summaries, etc.

This was a great success and partnership!

Please contact SOVA Outreach if you are interested in a similar partnership!

Did you know...

Robin Eaddy,
SOVA Auditor
Retired on
November 4, 2015

New SOVA Employees:

Katie Allgood

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SOVA Auditing Section

The State Office of Victim Assistance is mandated to provide oversight of the Victim Assistance Fines, Fees and Assessment Fund. It is our goal to provide ongoing victim programmatic and financial training, technical assistance and support for any county, municipality, non-profit or other entity providing direct services to victims of crime to ensure the proper usage of ACT 141 funds in accordance with state laws and requirements.

In the past few years, there has been an increase in the number of questions regarding donations and the best practices for these funds.

So, if your municipality or county is interested in making a donation, please note the information below:

- Assess the sustain-

ability of your Victim Assistance Program first.

- All requests for donations must be submitted yearly and considered a one-time donation and is not a guarantee of funds.
- Ensure the entity understands that by receiving these funds they will be required to notify the SOVA Auditing Section.
- Also, they will be required at the end of the fiscal year to provide SOVA with a budget and or report showing how the donated funds were used. The budget/expenditure report is a requirement per Proviso 117.51.
- Approved and or awarded donations must be reported

using the process outlined on the Victim Assistance Fines, Fees and Assessment Fund Donation Form (located on the SOVA website at www.sova.sc.gov).

- Approved and or awarded donations must be reported to SOVA immediately and recorded on the victim assistance budget and expenditure report.
- If you have any questions or concerns about the process, contact the SOVA Auditing Section at 803.734.1900 or visit the SOVA website at www.sova.sc.gov and click on the auditing tab.

Community Involvement

During the 2nd quarter, SOVA completed 11 training events across the State. A total of approximately 330 victim service providers were trained.

Additionally, SOVA hosted the annual Advanced Victim Assistance Academy in Charleston.

The two day event was attended by 26 participants from across the State with a combined total of 240 years working in victim services. Overall, the 2015 Advanced Academy was a huge success.

So, mark your calendars for the upcoming 2016

Advanced Academy. The Academy will be held October 26–27, 2016 in Myrtle Beach, S.C.

Additional information will be forthcoming.



MEASURES OF SUCCESS:

- COMPETANCE
- CONSCIENTIOUSNESS
- COMMON SENSE
- COMMUNICATION
- TEAMWORK
- TRAINING

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