

THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR
Victims of Crime

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January 2014

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Dear Colleague:

The National Center for Victims of Crime is honored to partner with the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office for Victims of Crime, to present the *2014 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Resource Guide*.

These resources have been developed to inspire your preparations for National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 6–12, 2014. This year, we celebrate 30 years of the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) and its critical mission to fund crime victim compensation and victim assistance programs across our nation.

The 2014 theme—*30 Years: Restoring the Balance of Justice*—reminds us how truly groundbreaking this bipartisan legislation continues to be for the millions of crime victims who are helped by it each year. For them, VOCA means that they are not alone: they and their families are not left to face the physical, mental, and financial devastation of crime without the services and support they need.

The mission of the National Center for Victims of Crime, founded in 1985, has drawn on that same passion for rebuilding the lives of crime victims.

The next 30 years will bring new challenges for our field, among them the growth in financial fraud and online victimization; the urgent need to address human trafficking; the increasing role DNA will play in justice for victims; and the ongoing work of reaching out to underserved victims, marginalized populations, and those whose victimization is hidden or under-reported. We look forward to observing 2014 National Crime Victims' Rights Week and continuing to work together to serve crime victims, their families, and communities.

Sincerely,

Mai Fernandez
Executive Director
National Center for Victims of Crime

Philip M. Gerson
Chair
National Center for Victims of Crime