

Building Bridges Between Elder Justice Professionals and VOCA Administrators

May 27, 2015



Technical Overview



- Participants will remain on mute throughout the session. If you have questions, please type them in the Q&A pod.
- Today's session will be recorded and made available on the OVC TTAC Web site.
- If you have technical difficulties during the webinar, please contact Jason Adams at jadams@ovcttac.org.

Overview of Adobe



The screenshot displays the Adobe Meeting interface. The main window, titled 'Share 4', shows a grey textured background with the text 'Nothing is being shared.' Three blue arrows point from the main window towards the sidebar. The sidebar on the right contains several panels: 'Q & A' (empty), 'Attendees (1)' (empty), 'Active Speakers' (empty), 'Hosts (0)', 'Presenters (0)', 'Participants (1)' (with 'OVC TTAC' listed), and 'Chat (Everyone)' (with the message 'OVC TTAC: Hello everyone!').

Facilitator



Shelly L. Jackson, Ph.D.

*Financial Fraud and Abuse Visiting Fellow
Office for Victims of Crime*



Presenter



Ursel McElroy Drake, M.A.

*Deputy Director of Education and Policy
Ohio Attorney General's Office
Crime Victim Section*



Poll One



What is your involvement with VOCA?

The Impact of VOCA

31 Years of History



30 Years:
Restoring the
Balance of Justice

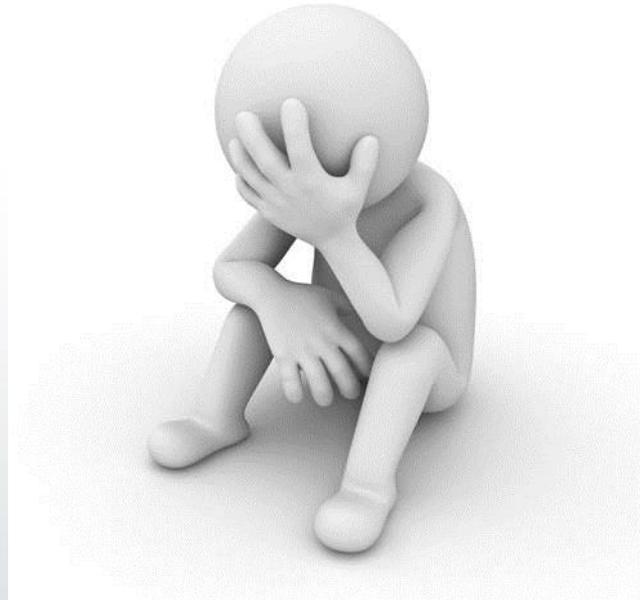
VOCA and Elder Victims

Improving Our Response



VOCA and Elder Victims

What We Know...



There is Much at Risk

Human and Economic Costs



Economic losses for the victim and others

Reliance on publicly funded programs

Unnecessary illness and injury

Premature risk of death

Poll Two



How often do you serve elder abuse victims?

Victim-Centered Approach

Are We Really So Different?



Aging Network

- Civil
- Insular
- Ability
- Infancy

Victim Services

- Criminal
- Diverse
- Trauma
- Evolved

Aging Network

- Primacy of Adult

Victim Services

- Victim-Centered

VOCA in Plain Language

42 U.S. Code Chapter 112



Established in 1984

Created the Crime Victims Fund

Major funding source for victims

Financed by convicted federal offenders

VOCA in Plain Language

Crime Victim Compensation Program



- **Direct reimbursement to or on behalf of a crime victim**
- **Statutorily identified crime-related expenses:**
 - Medical costs
 - Funeral and burial costs
 - Mental health counseling
 - Lost wages or loss of support

VOCA in Plain Language

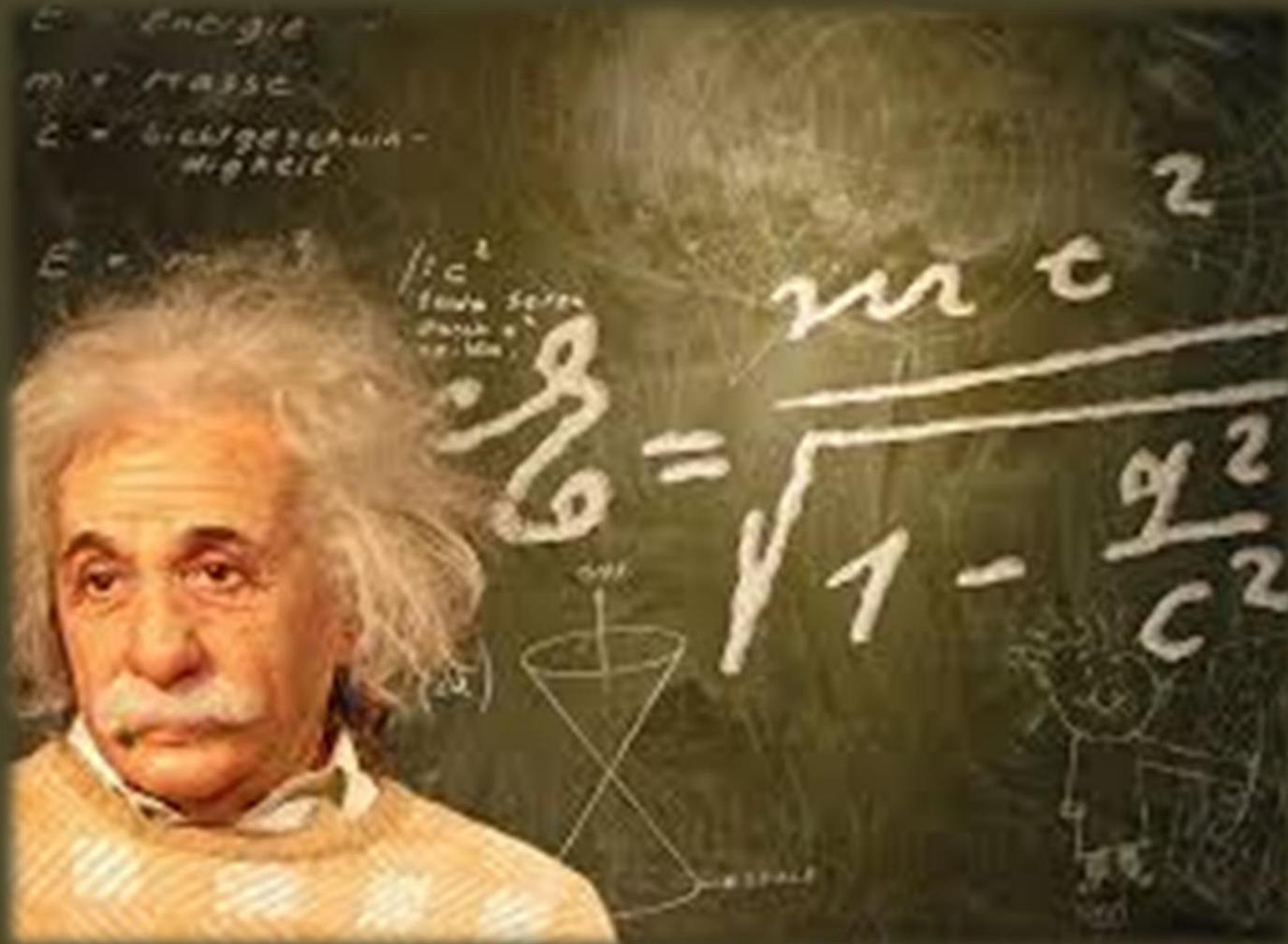
Victim Assistance



- **Funds awarded to local organizations that provide services directly to victims of crime**
- **Victim assistance includes:**
 - Crisis intervention
 - Emergency shelter
 - Emergency transportation
 - Counseling
 - Criminal justice advocacy

Allocating VOCA Funds

Understanding the Numbers



Allocating VOCA Funds

Understanding the Numbers



- **Congress establishes an annual funding cap**
- **Allocations are made**
 - Children’s Justice Act
 - U.S. Attorneys’ Offices
 - Federal Bureau of Investigation
 - Federal Victim Notification System
 - Office for Victims of Crime
 - State compensation formula grants
 - State victim assistance grants

Allocating VOCA Funds

More Funds Available



- **December 16, 2014, President Obama signed into law the “Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015”**
- **VOCA cap raised from \$745 million to \$2.361 billion**



Allocating VOCA Funds

Crime Victim Compensation Program



- **Every state administers a CVC program**
- **Each state CVC program receives an annual grant equal to 60% of what the program spends in state money annually**
 - Calculation is based on the state dollars paid out for the federal fiscal year 2 years prior to federal grant

Allocating VOCA Funds

Victim Assistance



- **All states, the District of Columbia, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico receive an annual grant with a base amount of \$500,000**
 - Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, and American Samoa receive a base amount of \$200,000
- **Additional funds are distributed to states and territories based on population**

Allocating VOCA Funds

Administrative and Training Costs



- **No more than 5% of each year's grant can be used for administration and training**
 - Compensation
 - Victim Assistance

5%

Poll Three



How can VOCA assist a victim of elder financial exploitation?

Did You Know...?

VOCA Program Guidelines



Victims of financial exploitation are eligible for counseling, criminal justice advocacy, and other support services

Did You Know...?

VOCA Program Guidelines



Emergency, short-term nursing home shelter for elder abuse victims for whom no other safe, short-term residence is available is an allowable cost for VOCA subrecipients

Did You Know...?

VOCA Program Guidelines



Training on crime victim issues to aging and adult protective service providers can be supported with VOCA victim assistance administrative funds

Did You Know...?

VOCA Program Guidelines



Adult protective service agencies are eligible to receive VOCA victim assistance funds to expand or enhance the delivery of crime victim services

Ideas Anyone?

Steps to Bridging the Gap



Poll Four



List one way to bridge the gap between elder justice professionals and VOCA administrators.

Strategic Approach

Steps to Bridging the Gap



Identify

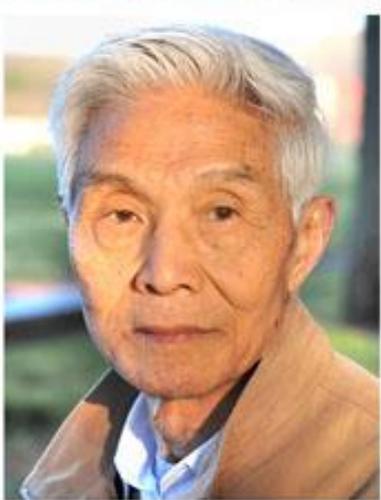
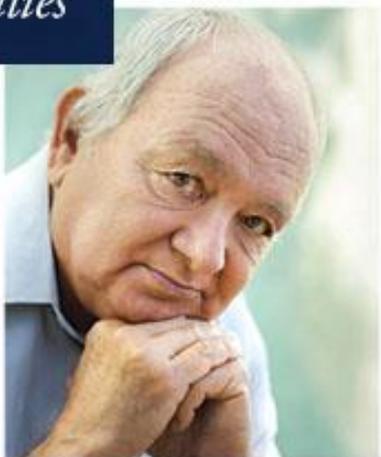
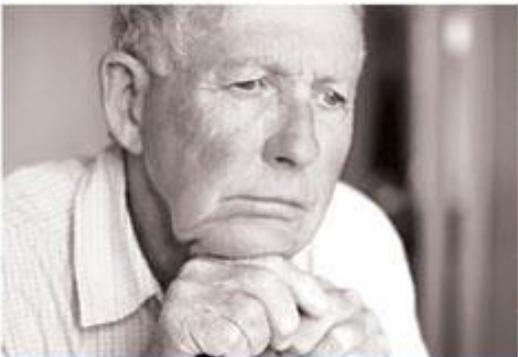
- Areas of higher need
- Opportunities within VOCA guidelines

Connect

- With state VOCA administrator to discuss findings
- With service providers to survey what's available

Assist

- By promoting collaboration
- By building capacity to service elder victims



 *Protecting Ohio's Families*

Ohio Attorney General's Elder Justice Initiative

1-800-282-0515

*Enhancing Access to
Criminal Justice Services
for Elder Abuse Victims*

Questions?

