

# Multidisciplinary Responses to Families and Communities in Complex Homicide Cases

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GRANTEE MEETING #2

SEPTEMBER 5-6, 2018



vision<sup>21</sup>  
OVC-Funded Project

THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR  
**Victims of Crime**

**Tuesday, September 4, 2018**

4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. Early Registration/Check-In

**Wednesday, September 5, 2018**

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. Registration

9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m. Welcome and Year in Review  
**Toni Lawrimore**, *National Center for Victims of Crime*  
**Jessica Vanderpool**, *National Sheriffs' Association*

9:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m. Responding to the Pulse Nightclub Shooting  
**Chief Deputy Larry Zwiag**, *Orange County Sheriff's Office*  
**Kathy DeVault**, *Office of Orlando Mayor*

11:15 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Lunch (No federal funds will be used for food or beverage)

12:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m. National Training Institute Plenary

1:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. Break

2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Trauma-Informed Witness Response in Homicide Cases  
**Mike LaRiviere**, *Investigator, Salem Police Department, Massachusetts*  
**Jane Anderson**, *Attorney Advisor, AEquitas: The Prosecutors' Resource on Violence Against Women*

3:15 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. Break

3:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m. Trauma-Informed Witness Response in Homicide Cases (Continued)  
**Mike LaRiviere**, *Investigator, Salem Police Department, Massachusetts*  
**Jane Anderson**, *Attorney Advisor, AEquitas: The Prosecutors' Resource on Violence Against Women*

4:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Announcements and Dismissal

**Thursday, September 6, 2018**

7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m. Registration

8:30 a.m. – 8:40 a.m. Welcome and Announcements  
**Toni Lawrimore, National Center for Victims of Crime**  
**Jessica Vanderpool, National Sheriffs' Association**

8:40 a.m. – 10:40 a.m. Demonstration Site Year in Review  
**Palm Beach County Division of Victim Services**  
**Medical University of South Carolina**  
**Anti-Violence Partnership of Philadelphia**  
**Frontline Services**  
**Baltimore Child Abuse Center**  
**Office of the Bronx District Attorney**  
**Thresholds and Chicago Survivors**

10:40 a.m. – 10:55 a.m. Break

10:55 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. Discussion/Q&A

11:45 a.m. – 1:20 p.m. National Training Institute Plenary and Lunch (No Federal Funds Will Be Used for Food or Beverage)

1:20 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. Break

1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. Vicarious Trauma, Secondary Traumatic Stress, and Self Care: Part 2  
**Michelle Palmer, Executive Director, Wendt Center for Loss and Healing**

3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m. Break

3:15 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Looking Forward to Year 3: What We Need to Accomplish  
**Toni Lawrimore, National Center for Victims of Crime**

4:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m. Closing Remarks and Next Steps  
**Toni Lawrimore, National Center for Victims of Crime**

**Friday, September 7, 2018**

8:00 a.m. – Close of Conference. Attend National Training Institute as dictated by larger NTI schedule

## PARTICIPANT BIOS

### National Center for Victims of Crime

#### **Toni Lawrimore**

*Project Director, Complex Homicide, National Center for Victims of Crime*

Toni Lawrimore is the program director for the Complex Homicide program at the National Center for Victims of Crime. She began her work with crime victims as a rape crisis advocate at the University of South Carolina's Student Health Services Sexual Assault and Violence Intervention and Prevention office. She then moved on to serve victims with the Office of the South Carolina Attorney General as the sole prosecution victim advocate. Her work took her to Washington, DC to become a human trafficking program officer with the U.S. Committee for Refugees and Immigrants before she joined the team at the National Center for Victims of Crime. Lawrimore's passion for working with victims of crime began when she studied for her master's degree in social work and master's degree in public health at the University of South Carolina, where she focused on violent crime as a public health issue. She is a licensed master of social work.

#### **Josue Melendez**

*Program Coordinator, Complex Homicide, National Center for Victims of Crime*

Josue Melendez is the program coordinator for the Complex Homicide program at the National Center for Victims of Crime. He also assisted in the distribution of the National Center for Victims of Crime's Compassion Fund to the victims of the Pulse shooting in 2016 in Orlando, FL, where he spoke to the victims of the deceased to assist them with vital services. Melendez graduated from Coppin State University with an undergraduate degree in Interdisciplinary studies with a concentration in health information management and psychology and has worked in victim services since 2015. He has worked at the National Sexual Assault Hotline at RAINN (Rape, Abuse, Incest National Network), the National Human Trafficking Hotline at Polaris, and the DC Victim Hotline. Melendez has used his personal history of family members and friends murdered through gang violence in his country of El Salvador to drive his work. Melendez was a resident director at his university, where he would serve as a resource for his residents who had family who were victims of homicide.

## National Sheriff's Association



**Jessica Vanderpool**

*Director of Special Projects, National Sheriffs' Association*

Jessica Vanderpool is the director of special projects at the National Sheriffs' Association and has been with NSA since 2014. She has served as director and coordinator for grant projects on the topics of law enforcement response to and investigation of domestic violence, dating violence, and stalking; law enforcement response to victims with disabilities; animal cruelty as a gateway to more serious crimes; preventing lethal canine encounters; child abuse prosecution; and Multidisciplinary Responses to Families and Communities in Complex Homicide Cases. Jessica is the staff liaison for NSA's Domestic Violence and Crime Victim Services Committee as well as the Youth Programs and Juvenile Justice Committee. She holds an M.A. in education from Saint

Louis University.

## Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)



**Mary Atlas-Terry**

*Victim Justice Program Specialist, Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)*

Mary Atlas-Terry is a victim justice program specialist at Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), within the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs. In that capacity, she develops grant programs and monitors cooperative agreements for a variety of initiatives involving services for victims of crime. Most of her projects address services for family members of homicide victims and victims of human trafficking. Before joining OVC in 2003, Ms. Atlas-Terry worked for the Anti-Violence Partnership of Philadelphia as a program director for Families of Murder Victims, a nonprofit victim service program housed within the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office, Homicide Division. Ms. Atlas-Terry holds a master's in social work from the University of Maryland at Baltimore and a bachelor's in

social work from Salisbury State University. She became involved in the victims field after her husband was murdered in 1993.



**Kareem Izlar-Mathis**

*Victim Justice Program Specialist, Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)*

Kareem Izlar-Mathis is a victim justice program specialist at the Office for Victims of Crime in the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Office of Justice Programs. He administers multiple grants covering tribal awards, supporting male survivors of violence, Vision 21 multidisciplinary responses to families and communities in complex homicide cases, technology innovations on identity theft applications, and Vision 21 innovations grants to enhance and transform services for victims of crime. He also oversees special projects, which include providing explanations of program statutes, guidelines, and agency policy to recipient grantees.

Before joining OVC in 2012, Mr. Izlar-Mathis was a grant technician for the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA). While there, Mr. Izlar-Mathis managed the closeout of Local Law Enforcement Block Grants (LLEBG) and Recovery Act Grants under \$25,000 covering four to eight states. During that time, Mr. Izlar-Mathis also represented BJA at national conferences and on various working groups within Office of Justice Programs on local law enforcement, community policing, and the then newly released Recovery Act awards.

Before that, Mr. Izlar-Mathis was a government contractor with Pitney Bowes government solutions agency, where he was first introduced to BJA LLEBG awards. While there, he managed grant startup activities for grants under \$15,000.

Mr. Izlar-Mathis holds computer networking certificates from Unisoft School of Computer Technology.

**Speakers**

**Jane Anderson**

*Attorney Advisor, AEquitas: The Prosecutors' Resource on Violence Against Women*



Jane Anderson (JD) is an attorney advisor with AEquitas: The Prosecutors' Resource on Violence Against Women. As an attorney advisor, Jane presents on trial strategy, legal analysis and policy, and ethics. She provides technical assistance and case consultation for prosecutors and allied professionals; authors and develops resources, publications, and curricula; and consults on the development of protocols and policies that improve responses to crimes of violence against women.

Prior to joining AEquitas, Jane served as an assistant state attorney with Florida's Eleventh Judicial Circuit in Miami-Dade County. As a prosecutor, she tried many of the state's first human trafficking cases, including related sexual assault, child abuse, and money laundering crimes. In her role as a founding member of the Miami-Dade State Attorney's Human Trafficking Unit and Task Force, Jane

developed the infrastructure to better identify trafficking victims through reviewing juvenile and felony cases, and training law enforcement officers, first responders, teachers, and the community. She also built a coalition of service providers and community leaders to provide victims with the services necessary to help rebuild their lives and assist in the prosecutions of their traffickers. Most recently, Jane focused on building stronger prosecutions through the use of cyber investigations, digital evidence, and racketeering statutes.

Prior to focusing on human trafficking prosecutions, Jane served as the chief of litigation for the Misdemeanor Domestic Violence Unit. She also held several supervisory positions where she oversaw the prosecutions of domestic violence, stalking, human trafficking, and other felony-level crimes. While a supervisor, she trained and supervised new lawyers in the complexities of intimate partner violence and prosecutions. Prior to and during her supervisory positions, she prosecuted homicides, domestic violence crimes, sexual assault, and other violent crimes.

Jane graduated cum laude with a J.D. from American University, Washington College of Law after earning a bachelor's in history from the University of Washington in Seattle. Prior to her legal career, she lived and taught English in Bangkok, Thailand. Jane is based in the San Francisco Bay Area.



**Kathy DeVault**

*Director of Strategic Partnerships, Office of Orlando Mayor*

Kathy DeVault serves as director of strategic partnerships for Mayor Buddy Dyer and the City of Orlando.

As director of strategic partnerships, Kathy oversees the development and implementation of special projects as directed by Mayor Dyer. Kathy develops strategies to enhance the engagement of the community, businesses and residents with City government.

Immediately following the June 12, 2016 Pulse tragedy that took the lives of 49 people and injured more than 50, Kathy was tasked with coordinating the Family Assistance Center (FAC) which co-located 35 different agencies to help address the immediate needs and provide information, support and resources to the Pulse victims and family members.

Kathy holds a bachelor's in communication and a master of public administration, both from the University of Central Florida in Orlando.



**Michael LaRiviere**

*Investigator, Salem Police Department, Massachusetts*

Michael LaRiviere has been a member of the Salem Police Department since 1989. His duties during his six years as a domestic violence liaison officer (DVLO) included domestic violence investigations, policy/procedure development, and training. Michael's work has significantly changed the way domestic violence cases are investigated in Salem and surrounding communities.

Michael is currently assigned as the department's victim services officer (VSO) where he investigates a wide range of crimes including domestic violence, sexual assault, elder abuse and crimes against undocumented and limited English proficiency victims. He has conducted extensive trainings both locally and nationally for enforcement, medical, social services, and legal professionals on these issues. Michael currently provides consultation and technical assistance nationally and has assisted in the development of training curriculums for local, state, national and military audiences. Michael earned his B.S. in human services at Springfield College. He has been honored with a community award from HAWC (Help for Abused Women and Their Children) for taking concrete steps to end domestic violence and in 2002 he was recognized by the Office on Violence Against Women for his extraordinary contribution to the prevention of domestic violence. Office LaRiviere served as a member of the congressionally appointed Department of Defense Taskforce on Domestic Violence.



**Michelle Palmer**

*Executive Director, Wendt Center for Loss and Healing*

Michelle Palmer is the executive director of the Wendt Center for Loss and Healing, a mental health agency specializing in issues related to grief/loss and trauma. Ms. Palmer has been living and working in the District of Columbia for 17 years. Her professional areas of expertise include HIV/AIDS, grief/loss, and trauma. As part of the District's mass casualty response, Ms. Palmer responded to the shootings at the Navy Yard including providing the death notifications to the families of seven of the victims. Ms. Palmer has provided trainings on issues related to grief/loss and trauma locally, nationally, and internationally.

She has served on a multitude of committees and task forces to address issues related to violent crime, including the development of the District's Victim Services Mass Disaster Academy and Mayor Bowser's Safer Stronger DC Task Force. Ms. Palmer received her master's degree in social work from the University of Vermont and is a licensed independent clinical social worker in the District of Columbia.



**Chief Deputy Larry Zwieg**  
*Orange County Sheriff's Office, Orlando, FL*

Chief Deputy Larry Zwieg has been a member of the Orange County Sheriff's Office since 2012. He currently serves as the chief deputy of the Operational Services Bureau, which includes the Uniform Patrol Division, the Criminal Investigations Division, and the Special Operations Division. He has also served as the chief deputy of the Administrative Services Bureau, which includes the Court Services and Communications Division, the Support Services Division, and the Human Resources Division. He is also the high risk incident commander with overall command of the special teams, including the SWAT Team, Emergency Response Team, Hostage Negotiation Team, Special Response Team, Hazardous Devises Team, and the Critical Incident Management Team.

Prior to his current position, Chief Deputy Larry Zwieg served as the director of the Metropolitan Bureau of Investigation. The Metropolitan Bureau of Investigation is a federal law enforcement task force comprised of 17 local, state, and federal agencies which operates primarily in the Ninth Judicial Circuit of Florida. The Metropolitan Bureau of Investigation was created as a specialized group of investigators assigned to concentrate on narcotics trafficking, organized crime, racketeering, and vice-related offenses such as prostitution, human sex trafficking, organized gambling and violations of adult entertainment codes. Chief Deputy Larry Zwieg is a 25-year veteran of the Orlando Police Department.

Chief Deputy Zwieg has a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee and a master's degree in public administration from Troy State University. He is a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy (Class 262), and the Southern Police Institute's Command Officer's Course. He also completed the Drug Enforcement Administration Narcotics Commander's Course. He is a current member of the Florida Sheriff's Association, the Florida Police Chiefs Association, and the International Association of Chiefs of Police. Chief Deputy Larry Zwieg is past president of the Central Florida Criminal Justice Association.

## DEMONSTRATION SITE ABSTRACTS

### DUI/Impaired Driving Homicide

#### **Palm Beach County Division of Victim Services**

Palm Beach County Division of Victim Services, Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office, and Mothers Against Drunk Driving seek to address Driving Under the Influence (DUI)/Impaired Driving Related Deaths through the FY 2016 Vision: 21 Multidisciplinary Responses to Families and Communities in Complex Homicide grant program. In order to address the resulting emotional, psychological, physical and financial aftermath associated with DUI/Impaired Driving Related Deaths, this project builds upon existing community resources to develop a comprehensive response addressing the unmet and complex needs of this population. To do so, a multidisciplinary team will be convened and tasked with mapping out the current service delivery system and creating an enhanced response wherein families are immediately linked to evidence-based, trauma-informed services by well-trained first responders, closing the current gap that leaves families alone in their grief with delayed or no assistance.

The work of the group will be memorialized through protocols supporting the new seamless continuum of care. Training and resources on topics such as appropriate death notification, grief, survivor's guilt, child loss, adult loss, financial recovery, civil justice, criminal justice, and victim impact statements will be provided for first responders, advocates, clergy, and hospital/medical staff. By working with a technical assistance provider as part of the project, we will ensure that the most appropriate victim-centered and evidence-based practices are utilized and implemented. Advocates will provide direct services such as on-site crisis counseling, emergency monetary aid, information/referrals to victim compensation, intercession with employers and landlords, transportation services, translator services, supportive counseling, and attendance at court hearings. Therapists will provide evidence-based therapy services to address trauma and grief, taking into account the needs of teenagers and special populations. Florida State University will be the project research partner that will prepare a logic model, identify needed data, and appropriate data collection methods as part of an overall process evaluation. The process evaluation will comprehensively describe the inputs for the proposed multidisciplinary intervention, the actual service activities provided to the families, and the short-term family outcomes associated with these collaborative multidisciplinary inputs and service activities.

Final drafts of the grant outputs will be provided to the technical assistance provider for publication and dissemination in hopes that this project will serve as a model for others to replicate around the country, ultimately impacting the field of victim services.

#### **Contact Info**

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## Intra-familial Homicide

### **Medical University of South Carolina**

This collaborative project aims to develop a multidisciplinary response for intra-familial homicides among local and regional agencies providing intensive direct services to family members of homicide victims in the Charleston Tri-County Area of South Carolina. At present, our service model provides crisis intervention, intensive case management, and victim advocacy, specialized mental health services (including support groups and individual community-based trauma-focused treatment) available to homicide survivors to assist in stabilizing their lives after murder. However, seamless coordinated efforts between collaborating agencies are limited.

This project will permit the formal development of a multidisciplinary response team (Charleston HEART: Homicide Early intervention and Advocacy Response Team) who will be consistently trained in victim-centered and trauma-informed approaches to address the unique needs of intra-familial homicides. This team will begin to coordinate and provide comprehensive services for family members within 24-48 hours of homicide, including evidence-informed practices such as Psychological First Aid and Skills for Psychological Recovery and ongoing intensive case management and community (or telehealth) trauma and loss treatment.

Further, this project will identify and disseminate promising practices for provision of a comprehensive and coordinated array of services that streamlines access to vital support services that are unique to family members impacted by intra-familial homicide. This project capitalizes on the clinical expertise of a team of multi-disciplinary victim service providers including law enforcement, the coroner's office, the prosecuting attorney office, child advocacy centers, domestic violence non-profits, medical providers, and mental health providers who are currently providing services to family members of survivors and who have knowledge of engagement strategies with underserved populations.

During this demonstration initiative, the National Crime Victims Research and Treatment Center and partnering agencies will: 1) evaluate the needs of intra-familial homicide survivors and assess promising practices to assure that the new multidisciplinary team response is evidence-based as well as culturally competent; 2) enhance existing provision of services for family members of intra-familial homicide victims by responding within 24-48 hours from the murder to provide coordinated evidence-informed early intervention approaches; 3) evaluate a comprehensive seamless coordinated multidisciplinary team response, early intervention, and longer term community and telehealth-based approaches with intra-familial survivors residing in the Charleston tri-county area; and 4) develop protocols and training materials for dissemination within the field of best practices for intra-familial response.

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## **The Anti-Violence Partnership of Philadelphia (AVP)**

The Intra-Familial Homicide Response Initiative builds upon AVP's 30-year history of assistance to homicide co-victims and long-term collaboration with criminal justice and human service organizations.

The sudden violent loss of a loved one has a tremendous impact on family members left behind. Immediately after notification of the homicide, co-victims are faced with numerous tasks at a time when they are least capable of handling them. This period, "disequilibrium," is marked by intense anxiety, during which their usual repertoire of coping mechanisms prove insufficient. When the homicide is intra-familial, the effect on co-victims is more complex because they had a personal relationship with both the offender and the victim. Intra-familial homicides also affect a wide range of other issues, including child custody, stability of living arrangements, and family income.

AVP provides services to co-victims in three critical categories: practical/concrete services, psycho-emotional support/ counseling, and advocacy. Information about co-victims comes to AVP through many channels including the medical examiner's office, district attorney office, police department, hospitals, private and public victim and human service organizations, and local schools. However, these referrals do not always include specifics about the homicide, including that the offender was a family member; additionally, many family members are not identified until weeks, days or even years after the murder. Disequilibrium usually lasts from four to eight weeks; co-victims are more receptive to others' efforts to help during this period. It is critical that co-victims of intra-family homicides be identified, contacted, and offered services at the earliest possible time, in collaboration with other human services, law enforcement and criminal justice organizations preferably within 24 to 48 hours of the murder. It is also crucial to provide proactive outreach to the family, with the understanding that the intra-familial homicide will inevitably create divisions within families and that information about available services is not likely to be communicated from member to member.

The project will increase collaboration and communication among AVP, the MEO, the DA's Office, and the police department, as well as interact with domestic violence prevention organizations, schools and other agencies, to ensure that services to co-victims of intra-familial homicides are enhanced as follows:

- More timely identification of homicides as being intra-familial;
- Better identification of family members associated with intra-familial homicide;
- Active outreach to include a home visit whenever deemed necessary by co-victims or situation;
- Provision of services reflecting understanding of the unique needs of co-victims of intra-familial homicides.

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## Child Witness to Homicide

### **Frontline Service**

The Traumatic Loss Response Team (TLRT)-A Multidisciplinary Response to Complex Homicides Involving Children project will meet the complex needs of children throughout Cuyahoga County, Ohio, who have witnessed or whose families have experienced homicide. The objectives of the project include enhancing the county's current system of victim services for children and families of homicide victims and ensuring that these services are accessible, comprehensive, culturally-competent, trauma informed, and effective; creating a partnership of key agencies and institutions to support and guide the development and implementation of this project's activities; and disseminating the lessons that are learned from the program to the Office of Crime Victims and other victim services providers across the nation.

#### **Contact Info**

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### **Baltimore Child Abuse Center**

While the crime rate decreased nationally in 2015, Baltimore City's crime and homicide rate soared. Baltimore City's murder rate met an all-time high with a 55 per-capita murder rate for every 100,000 residents – the highest since its last record-breaking year in 1993 and a 63 percent increase from 2014. The purpose of the Baltimore City Multidisciplinary Response for Child Witnesses to Homicide program is to provide a collaborative multidisciplinary response for children impacted by homicide and their families. The proposed program would take the evidenced-based, proven Children's Advocacy Center multidisciplinary model designed to serve victims of child sexual abuse, and extend it to this special victim population. The program seeks to bring together law enforcement officers, prosecutors, forensic interview professionals, victim advocates, and mental health treatment providers to serve child witnesses to homicide with a victim-centered and trauma-informed multidisciplinary response model that has successfully served over 30,000 victims of child sexual abuse and other trauma and their families in Baltimore City over the last 30 years.

#### **Contact Info**

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## Gang-Related Homicide

### **Office of the Bronx District Attorney**

In 2015, Bronx County had 17 percent of New York City's population, but 26 percent of the city's homicides and 28 percent of the city's shootings. Of the 91 homicides in the Bronx in 2015, nearly half were either gang-related or intra-familial. Though these two homicide types composed a large proportion of all 2015 Bronx homicides, the two groups only accounted for 26 percent of new intakes for homicide survivor services that year. This discrepancy can be attributed to the unique circumstances of both groups that require enhanced coordination between the agencies involved in their cases.

The objectives of the project are to (1) increase the number of homicide survivors served; (2) increase advocacy and therapeutic services around multi-agency responses to homicide survivors; and, (3) coordinate a multi-agency process to ensure the services are evenly and consistently available to homicide survivors. These objectives will be accomplished through a partnership between the Bronx District Attorney's Crime Victim Assistance Unit (BXDA-CVAU), the New York Police Department (NYPD), the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME), and the Center for Court Innovation (CCI). The grant will support a project coordinator, advocate, and therapist. Critical to the project strategy is the referral of homicide survivors by the NYPD to the project advocate to facilitate direct outreach to a greater number of homicide survivors. A program coordinator will facilitate cross-trainings between partner agencies and community service providers, with the focus of delivering a trauma-informed approach specific to homicide survivors. Additionally, the coordinator will work with community service providers to increase access to relevant services. At the onset this will include CCI's Child Witness Support Program for young witnesses of violent crimes, and the Stand Up To Violence program that utilizes a public health response to homicides. The therapist will implement the Restorative Retelling model via group sessions with intra-familial and gang-related homicide survivors.

The anticipated outcomes of the project include an increased number of gang-related and intra-familial homicide survivors assisted through the direct referral process between NYPD and the advocate, improved interactions between NYPD and homicide survivors resulting from trauma trainings and related materials, as well as development of palm-cards with available resources listed to be provided by detectives to survivors, and final evaluation report that draws on data collected throughout various points of the project intervention to determine the effectiveness of multi-agency collaboration in the coordinated response to complex homicide in the Bronx.

#### **Contact Info**

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## **Thresholds and Chicago Survivors**

Levels of violence in Chicago are well documented. With a population of 2.7 million people, Chicago experienced 481 homicides in 2015. The Chicago Police Department reports that 55.72 percent (268) of Chicago homicides in 2015 were gang-related through victim, assailant, or both. Regardless of the motive in any homicide, violent loss is devastating. The criminal nature of violent death, poor community-police relations, and the low rate of clearance of homicides confound recovery for all Chicago homicide survivors. In addition, survivors of gang-related homicides report facing significant stigma and barriers to information and services. Survivors of gang-motivated homicides are more likely to face victim/witness intimidation, and the anguished knowledge that their own neighbors may not come forward with information about the homicide out of fear. In gang-related homicides, survivors are more likely to be denied crime victims compensation, though in some cases they may be eligible. They have difficulty securing contracts with funeral homes, finding venues for funeral services, and relating to police, (who also report more difficulty working with them). The stigma reaches down to the children and siblings of victims, who see the disrespect their parents/guardians encounter in the aftermath of the homicide, and who may or may not be gang-affiliated or facing gang recruitment themselves.

Chicago Survivors has provided evidence-based, trauma-informed, survivor-centered crime victims' services to surviving family members following homicide in Chicago since 2010, including intervention within four hours; crime victims' rights education and protection; six months of supportive counseling and case management (adults and children); comprehensive referral services; court accompaniment; and a community of survivors for peer-based healing. They provide training to detectives, the medical examiner's office, prosecutors, and area hospitals in sensitive and effective communication with survivors following homicide.

With grant management assistance from Thresholds, and through partnership with the Chicago Police Department, Illinois Domestic Violence Hotline, and LAF, Chicago Survivors will enhance existing services with more nuanced interventions for families surviving gang-related homicides, and will engage UCAN, the Institute for Non-Violence Chicago, and build in coordinated referral responses for at-risk youth in these families. An interactive survivor symposium and key partner meetings will guide fulfillment of specific goals: updated materials; increased community involvement; reduction of victim/witness intimidation through work on family safety plans; reduction of stigma as experienced in disrespect, bias, or denial of services by hospitals, law enforcement, and criminal justice system; and coordinated services in the areas of at-risk youth, gang intervention, and legal aid.

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## DIRECTORY

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### Demonstration Sites

#### DUI/Impaired Driving Homicide

##### Palm Beach County Division of Victim Services

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## Intra-familial Homicide

### Medical University of South Carolina

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