Northwest Victim Services

A Year in Review

2022

Tobi Downing
Executive Director
This past year has been challenging and rewarding as we returned to in-person community engagements. Despite organizational transitions and staffing changes, Northwest Victim Services continued to provide care, support, and assistance to the crime victims of northwest Philadelphia. I am excited to lead NVS as we grow and serve the northwest community.

Tobi Downing
NVS MISSION

To provide prompt, effective, and holistic Services to all victims of crime in Northwest Philadelphia while increasing prevention strategies to elevate community safety.

VISION: To permanently alter the way, we treat victims of crime in Northwest Philadelphia.

VALUES:
Northwest Victim Services values six principles when aiding victims of crimes and the Northwest community. These principles are Community, Empathy, Dignity, Reliability, Competence and Confidentiality.
OUR TEAM

RYSHEDA ELLIOTT
Court/Victim Advocate

KWAMINAH GREER
Victim Advocate

LA'NITA HARRIS
Trauma Care Coordinator

CLARENCE ISZARD
Community Outreach Advocate (P/T)
OUR TEAM

TOBI DOWNING
Executive Director

TRINA DOW, MSW
Counselor/Therapist

DR. JANET ETZI
Therapist
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NVS BOARD OF DIRECTORS
2022-2023

PATRICIA FISHER, PRESIDENT
PATRICIA A. PAYNE, SECRETARY
KEVIN E. RAPHAEL, ESQ., TREASURER
ROBERT COOMBE
HON. LORI DUMAS
CRISTSANDRA PENN
PEDRO RODRIGUEZ
MARK MOORE, ESQ.

NVS ADVISORY BOARD
2022-2023

TONYA DE’VOUE BLACK
DR. JOANN COZZA
DERRICK J.V. SAWYER
NICK TALIFERRO
NVS served over 500 victims during 2022.
- 80% were victims of gun violence.
- 35% were survivors of homicide.
- 480 hours of counseling services were provided by NVS therapists to victims of crime.
- NVS advocates staffed over 95 preliminary hearings to support victims of crime in the courtroom

Services Provided
- VICTIMS ASSISTANCE
- SYSTEMS ADVOCACY
- REFERRALS AND INFORMATION
- COURT ACCOMPANIMENT
- ASSISTANCE FILING VCAP CLAIMS
- COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND EDUCATION
- COUNSELING
- SAFETY AND GOAL PLANNING
- RELOCATION ASSISTANCE
2022 Victims Compensation Claims

97 VCAP CLAIMS FILED

$1,947,114.46 FUNERAL EXPENSES
Amount of funding paid to co-victims for funeral costs by VCAP

$806,401.18 LOE - VICTIMS PHYSICAL DISABILITY
Amount paid to victims for loss of earnings

$3,000.00 HOUSING-RELOCATION
Amount of assistance reimbursed to victims for relocation expenses.
NORTHWEST VICTIM SERVICES
FUNDING

NVS' current funding under PCCD Grant "Serving Victims of Crime grant Oct 1, 2020 - Sept 30, 2023. NVS is currently working on creating a new budget for the new grant cycle that runs 10/1/2023 - 9/30/2025 to continue services.

3 year Grant - $647,226

Philadelphia District Attorney's
$73,000/ annual contract
to staff preliminary hearings

New Grants

City Expansion Grant - Temple Collaborative $152,000
- Counseling Services for trauma survivors
- Full-time Trauma Care Coordinator
- Outreach materials and supplies
- Funding to support activities and stipends for the Youth Advisory Collective

In November 2022, NVS was awarded $31,500 in unrestricted funding from the Philadelphia Foundation and the Federation of Neighborhood Centers from their Black Community Leaders Equity Fund. This funding will support
- organizational infrastructure needs
- staff development and training
- NVS outreach and training
- development of a multi-year strategic plan

January 2023, PCCD awarded NVS $135,000 from the Violence Intervention and Prevention VIP Competitive Grants
NVS FUNDING

PCCD

NVS IS CURRENTLY FUNDED BY PCCD GRANT "SERVING VICTIMS OF CRIME GRANT OCT 1, 2020 - SEPT 30, 2023.

DAO

PHILADELPHIA DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE ANNUAL CONTRACT TO STAFF PRELIMINARY HEARINGS

New Grants and Funding

City Expansion Grant - North Philadelphia Gun Violence Response Collaborative

November 2022
$31,500 from the Black Community Leaders Equity Fund Federation of Neighborhood Centers

January 2023, PCCD awarded NVS $135,000 from the Violence Intervention and Prevention VIP Competitive Grants

February 2023
$25,000 private donation to establish the NVS Survivors Resiliency Fund
Northwest Victim Services (NVS) Youth Advisory Collective is a youth-led decision-making body created to provide non-tokenized opportunities for young people to engage in violence prevention engagement and education efforts in their own communities. Working closely with the NVS Executive Director, Trauma Care team, and counselors, YAC will develop specific in-person and virtual programming and outreach to build awareness around gun and dating violence and other related topics. Through IG Live discussions and other community venues, YAC will facilitate discussions with young people about trauma, violence, navigating grief, and other topics.
What's New

Trauma Care Team

Trauma Care Outreach and Support:

Northwest Victim Services provides holistic outreach, support, resources, and counseling services to gun violence survivors. To enhance the accessibility of mental health support and counseling services the Trauma Care team will engage survivors in targeted and culturally specific ways with a focus on enhancing services to Black men and boys as well as other men of color referred by area trauma centers and other community-based and social services programs. Using a trauma-informed and healing-centered approach to outreach and intake practices, the team will develop peer support groups, and other resources and services identified by the survivors. These specific outreach and engagement efforts are meant to engage Black men and boys who have been disproportionately impacted by gun violence yet continue to be under-represented as recipients of victim services and crisis response efforts.

PCCD awarded NVS a VIP competitive grant January 2023 to support the continuation of this work.

Community Outreach and Education Events

Since COVID-19 restrictions have relaxed, NVS staff have participated in various community events.

- Trauma Day - Einstein Medical Center
- 14th Police District End of School Year Event
- Rep. Pamela Delissio’s Senior Expo
- NVS Pumpkin Smash/Bash
- Day of Remembrance
- Office of Black Male Engagement - Self-Care an Act of Power
- MLK Day Community Event and MLK High School
- MLK Day Color of Change Community Event
NVS EVENTS

YOUTH ADVISORY COLLECTIVE

IG Live Discussion series with YAC members and Dr. Chappelle Washinton

REIMAGINING SAFER COMMUNITIES
TRAINING AND COMMUNITY DISCUSSION SERIES

Reimagining Violence Prevention: Decriminalization of Youth of Color

Kristin Henning
Professor of Law at Georgetown University
and author of The Rage of Innocence

Future Trainings

- unHoused: Addressing Housing Needs for Victims of Crime
- Advocacy at the Intersections
- Healing the Village

Adara Combs
Director of the Philadelphia Office of the Victim Advocate