

# Northwest Victim Services October Newsletter

# RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

Inconvenience

Community

Distrust

Hurt

Healing

Anger

Pain

Confusion

# Restoring & Restarting

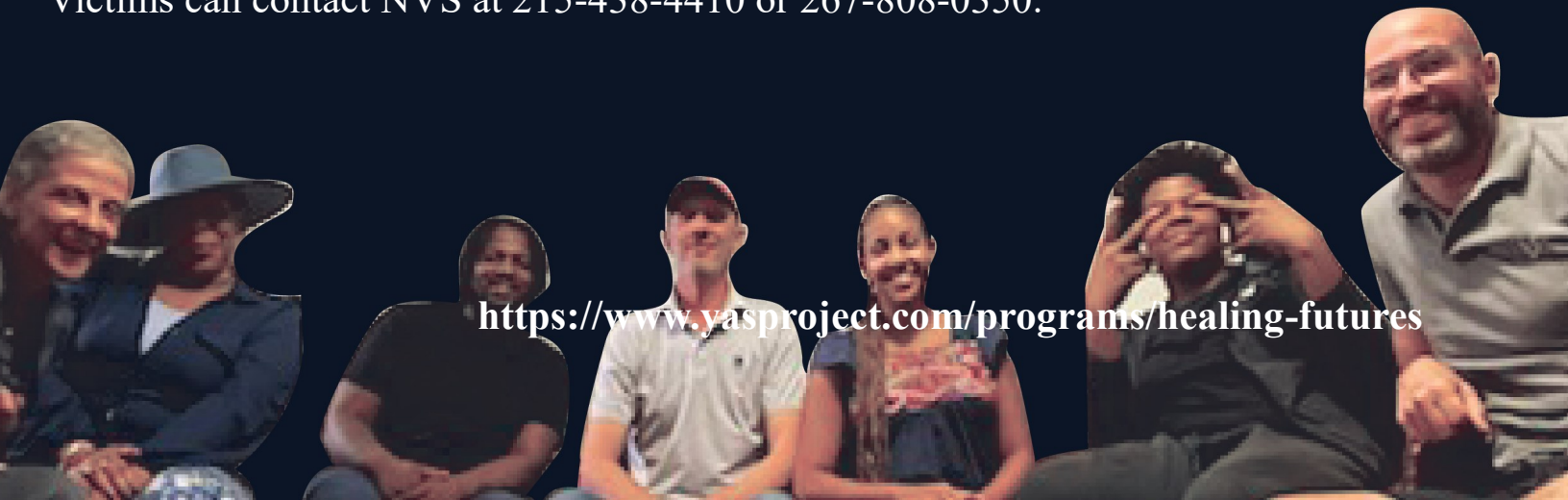


## Disconnected & Reconnected to my Community

Having your car stolen while your life is being turned upside down is beyond what any couple can handle. The decision of a few young men caused harm to a hard working family that was going through major health challenges with one of their young children. Not only was their car stolen the two car seats that were in the car were discarded. The car was discovered without the car seats and with a huge amount of traffic tickets. What is one to do when this occurs to them? What services are available to individuals who have their car stolen? Most importantly, what can an offender do if he or she is apprehended for a crime they commit of this degree? Good News: services are available for the victims and for the offenders! Harm is hard to recover from however; being opened minded to the process can produce healing. Healing Futures at the Youth Art & Self-empowerment Project is doing amazing work with young people. Healing Futures is Philadelphia's first ever pre-charge, youth-focused restorative justice diversion program. This program represents a radical shift from the criminal legal system's approach to addressing harm, including harm caused by children.

This couple felt disconnected from their community and could not understand why someone would steal their car. After a successful session with the Healing Futures staff, Northwest Victim Services (NVS) Staff, the offender, and the victims forgiveness was granted and remorse was extended. Saying "I am SORRY", means a lot if it is truly from the heart! Learn from your mistakes and listen to the words of victims and how the crime affected their every day life.

Victims can contact NVS at 215-438-4410 or 267-808-0350.



<https://www.yasproject.com/programs/healing-futures>



# YOUR CORNER OF THE WORLD YOUR CORNER OF THE WORLD

Take action in your own little corner of the world and I guarantee, with persistence all your efforts will have a ripple effect. Living the nightmare of our urban youth disproportionately killing one another continues to break my heart. I began examining some of the underlying reasons as to why this is occurring: environmental factors, social influences, wrong role models, poverty and untreated mental health issues. . I have come up against resistance in a varying degree simply because there is a lack of hope, lack of belief, and the lack of promise that anyone can make a difference. Like a defeatist attitude. In addition to complacency. Hence my premise, lets begin to make necessary behavioral / attitude changes in as much as WE ARE NOT GOING TO CONTINUE VIEWING OUR CONDITION AS ACCEPTABLE.

HELP ME CHANGE THE MIND SET OF OUR YOUNG PEOPLE. LEAD BY EXAMPLE AND CHANGE YOUR CORNER OF THE WORLD WHILE I CHANGE MY CORNER OF THE WORLD AND THE WHOLE WORLD WILL CHANGE TO END GUN VIOLENCE.

A CONCERNED AFRICAN AMERICAN MAN CONCERNED  
ABOUT YOUNG AFRICAN AMERICAN YOUNG MEN.

STEPHEN LLOYD



COMMUNITY RESOURCE FOR YOUTH



## The Youth Art & Self-empowerment Project

The Youth Art & Self-empowerment Project (YASP) is building a youth-led movement to end the practice of trying and incarcerating young people as adults and create a world without youth incarceration. Through our work in the Philadelphia jails, YASP provides space for incarcerated young people to express themselves creatively and to develop as leaders both within and beyond the prison walls. Young people who have been through the adult court system are at the forefront of YASP, leading the movement to keep young people out of adult prisons and to create new possibilities for youth around the city.

### YASP PROGRAMS

Participatory Defense Hub

Healing Futures

Care Not Control Campaign

Treat Kids As Kids

Creative Arts Programs

Youth Hub Fellowship

VOLUNTEER TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

YASP was created by young people for young people and, as such, we rely on the power and input of young people in order to function, especially those that have been directly involved in the adult criminal justice system.

YASP always needs volunteers to help out at special events, the youth hub, and with day-to-day responsibilities. We are looking for young people who are willing to learn, work, and engage with the mission of YASP.

Please send an email to [info@yasproject.com](mailto:info@yasproject.com) that includes a short description of how you would like to get involved.

October 12th is the 40th anniversary of the passage of the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)

# VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT

## CRIME VICTIMS FUND

### 40 YEARS HELPING CRIME VICTIMS

#### SINCE 1984

more than **\$39 billion** in non-taxpayer dollars have been deposited into the Crime Victims Fund to support victim assistance and compensation programs for *victims of all types of crimes*.

In 2023, state VOCA victim assistance grants were awarded to **6,458** public, nonprofit and tribal organizations that helped

**7.9M INDIVIDUALS.**

#### 2023 REPORTED VICTIMIZATIONS

- **3 million** domestic/family violence
- **873,503** adult physical assaults
- **706,292** child sexual assaults
- **687,357** child physical abuse/neglect
- **443,226** adult sexual assaults
- And others: *homicides, DUI, elder abuse/neglect, adults molested as children, sex/labor trafficking, mass violence, hate crimes, burglary, kidnapping, identity/financial crimes*

#### Services Provided:

- Criminal justice system support
- Individual advocacy
- Individual/group counseling
- Emergency shelter/safe homes
- Crisis intervention
- Hotline/crisis counseling
- Forensic examinations
- Prosecutor/Law Enforcement victim assistance

#### \$360M IN CRIME VICTIM COMPENSATION

In 2023, state and VOCA funded crime victim compensation benefits paid **\$360 million** to **607,000 claimants** for unreimbursed, out-of-pocket expenses, including medical, dental, mental health counseling, funeral and burial, economic loss of support, sexual assault forensic exams, crime scene cleanup and relocation expenses.

#### THE FUND ALSO SUPPORTS

- Children Justice Act child abuse investigation/prosecutions
- U.S. Attorneys' victim and witness coordinators
- FBI victim assistance specialists
- Federal victim notification system
- Discretionary grants for training and technical assistance; victims of federal crimes assistance
- Antiterrorism Emergency Reserve

**NOVA** National Organization for Victim Advocacy

October 12th is the 40th anniversary of the passage of the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA), which created the Crime Victims Fund that supports services for victims and survivors of all types of crime.

Mark your calendar for Tuesday, October 15, beginning with the VOCA 40th Virtual Commemoration at 1:00 pm EST. After this special event, please join the National Call to Action to secure passage of the Crime Victims Fund Stabilization Act (H.R. 8061/S.4514).

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO JOIN THIS HISTORIC COMMEMORATION CAN BE FOUND AT:

VOCA 40th Anniversary | NOVA ([trynova.org](https://trynova.org))

<https://trynova.org/about/voca-40th-anniversary/>





The Citizens Commission

1518 Walnut Street, Suite 902 ~ Philadelphia, Pa 19102

215-546-6532 Fax 215-546-6531 [www.crimecommission.org](http://www.crimecommission.org)

*John Apeldorn, President Santo Montecalvo, Vice President*

## **\$20,000 Reward:**



### Kyle Murdock

Philadelphia Police & the Citizens Crime Commission is seeking the public's help for information to solve the homicide of Kyle Murdock.

On Saturday October 22, 2022, at approximately 4:54am ,39<sup>th</sup> District Police responded to a radio call "Person with a Gun" at 1500 Clearfield Street. Upon arrival of Police Officers, they were told that the victim who was later ID as Kyle Murdock was transported by private auto to Temple University Hospital. The victim was suffering from multiple gunshot wounds and was admitted in critical condition. At 6:46 pm Dr Schwell pronounced the victim dead.

**City of Philadelphia is offering up to \$20,000 reward for information that leads to the arrest and conviction of the person(s) who was responsible for the death Kyle Murdock.**

**Information should be called in to the Crime  
Commission Tipline at  
215-546-TIPS  
Or  
Philadelphia Police at  
215-686-TIPS**

# COMMUNITY SERVICES AND RESOURCE GUIDE

## Food Assistance

### Food Distribution Sites

[phila.gov/food/#](http://phila.gov/food/#)

Find free groceries and meals near you.  
No ID is required.

### Food pantries 311 or 800-5HUNGRY

Call the Coalition Against Hunger for hot meals and food assistance in your area.

### City Health Centers

[phila.gov/services/mental-physical-health/city-health-centers](http://phila.gov/services/mental-physical-health/city-health-centers)

### Older Adult Meal Sites 215-765-9040

Call the Phila. Corporation for Aging to reserve 5 to 7 free meals per week.

### SNAP Hotline 215-430-0556

Call to apply for food stamps and other benefits.

### Free Grocery Delivery

[amazon.com/snap-ebt](http://amazon.com/snap-ebt)

Sign up with your EBT card.

## Transportation

### Medical Assistance Transportation - Modivcare

877-835-7436

Transportation to appointments for people with Medicaid.

### Medical Appointment Transportation 215-580-7145

Get rides to medical appointments or help with costs.

### Paratransit Services 888-545-2600

Call SEPTA for the Share-Ride program and Paratransit services information.

### Transportation Access Programs [lyft.com/lyftup](http://lyft.com/lyftup)

Get rides to the things you need like groceries, jobs, voting, and vaccines.

## Additional Resources

### Find Help [findhelp.org](http://findhelp.org)

Search for food, utilities, transportation, and more.

### Where to Turn Guide [projecthome.org/where-to-turn](http://projecthome.org/where-to-turn)

Regularly updated list of resources related to health & safety, benefits, and legal assistance, and more.

## Internet Access

### High-Speed Internet Subsidy 833-511-0311

Call to apply for a monthly internet subsidy, mail-in applications, or visit [GetEmergencyBroadband.org](http://GetEmergencyBroadband.org).

### Computer Training 215-867-9732

Call, email, or visit the Phila. Office of Innovation and Technology online to learn computer skills.

### Digital Navigator Helpline 215-426-7049

Internet and Computer Access for Philadelphia Residents.

## Online QR Codes

For more online resources, use a cell phone camera to scan the QR code.

### Housing

Shelters



Utilities



Housing



### Food Assistance

Food



Delivery



Hot Meals



### Employment

Same-day



Coaching



Search



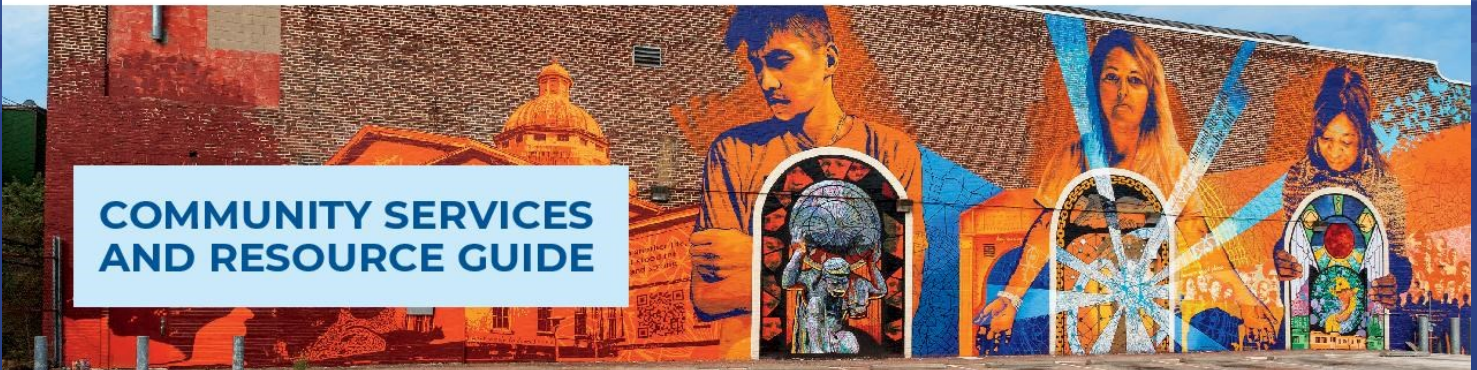
Photo: Steve Weinik



@DBHIDS







## COMMUNITY SERVICES AND RESOURCE GUIDE

### Housing

**Office of Homeless Services** 215-686-7175  
24/7 Emergency Shelter Assistance

**Home Repairs** 215-448-2160  
Phila. Division of Housing and Community Development helps homeowners with basic repairs

**Utility Shut-off Assistance** 215-972-5170  
See if you are eligible for money from the Utility Emergency Services Fund.

**Gas Heating Bill** 866-857-7095  
Call LIHEAP for help with your gas bill.

**Low-income Housing Online** [bit.ly/PHLhousing](https://bit.ly/PHLhousing)  
Search for apartments in Philadelphia.

**Affordable Housing** [bit.ly/AffordPHL](https://bit.ly/AffordPHL)  
Search affordable apartments in Philadelphia.

**Rental Assistance Programs** [rentassistance.us](https://rentassistance.us)

### Employment

**First Step Staffing** 215-333-3349  
\$12 to \$18/per hour same-day jobs, interviews, and rides to job sites. No experience is needed.

**Job Coaching and Services** 215-560-1900  
Call the Phila. Office of Vocational Rehabilitation for help with interviews, finding work, and keeping jobs, or visit 801 Market St., Suite 6034, Phila., PA 19107. Including people with intellectual disabilities.

**Job Search** 833-750-JOBS (5627)  
Call to schedule an appointment with CareerLink.

### Healthcare

**Philadelphia Crisis Line** 988 or 215-685-6440  
24/7 Mental Health Crisis and Suicide Prevention

**Community Behavioral Health** 888-545-2600  
Mental health and substance use treatment services for Philadelphians with Medicaid.

**Behavioral Health Services** 215-599-2150  
Learn if you qualify for mental health and addiction services with the Targeted Case Management Unit.

**BHSI Substance Use Treatment** 215-546-1200  
Call Behavioral Health Special Initiative for addiction treatment options if you have limited or no insurance.

**Free Grief and Loss Support** 215-685-7408/7411

**Domestic Violence Hotline** 866-723-3014

To apply for **Medical Assistance and Insurance** call Medicaid at 215-560-7226, CBH Member Services at 888-545-2600, or online at [compass.state.pa.gov](https://compass.state.pa.gov).

**City Health Center** [phila.gov/services/mental-physical-health/city-health-centers](https://phila.gov/services/mental-physical-health/city-health-centers)

**PHMC Dental** 215-309-6223  
Call the Public Health Management Corp. for virtual telehealth and emergency dental services.

**Medical and Dental Services** 215-320-6187  
Call the Stephen Klein Wellness Center to schedule an appointment.

**Children's Resources** 215-836-0958  
Call or visit Cradles to Crayons at 4700 Wissahickon Ave., Suite 142, Phila., PA 19144

Updated: Jan 2023



LET ME LIVE  
LET ME LIVE

LET ME LIVE

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