

MARCH 2023

CalVCB Victim Advocate Newsletter



Improving Communication

As we close out March and enter April, we continue to improve our internal services to better serve victims and assist all of you in the best way possible. We have increased our communication, and we conduct regular advocate forums. As we continue to roll out improvements, please let us know if you have suggestions for additional improvements and changes.

April is National Crime Victims' Rights Week and Denim Day, and we encourage all of you to include CalVCB in your plans. Email infoadvocate@victims.ca.gov with any events you'll be holding, and tag us on our social media channels so we may share your posts.

Reminders

All state offices are closed March 31 for Cesar Chavez Day

Information Security and Privacy Training forms are due by April 28

Are you signed up for **Morning Coffee**? Receive a brief daily email with news articles of interest to CalVCB.

Mental health provider forums Thursday, April 13 from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and Tuesday, April 25 from noon to 1:30 p.m.

Advocate webinar: Relocation and Required Documentation: Wednesday, April 17 from 1 p.m. until 3 p.m.

New Trauma Recovery Center Grants Awarded

CalVCB approved \$21.8 million in grant money to fund 15 Trauma Recovery Centers (TRCs) for the next two fiscal years. Funding begins on July 1, 2023, and concludes on June 30, 2025.

Of the 15 TRCs awarded grants, eight are existing CalVCB-funded TRCs, three are newly funded TRCs, and one is a former CalVCB-funded TRC.

They will receive funding ranging from \$531,914.75 to \$2.2 million. The funding amount differs based on application scores and the requested dollar amount.

The recipients and their county locations are:

- Rady Children’s Hospital – San Diego
- Contra Costa Family Justice Center – Contra Costa
- Special Service for Groups – Los Angeles
- The University Corporation – Los Angeles
- Olive View-UCLA Education Research Institute – Los Angeles
- Palomar Health Foundation – San Diego
- Ruby’s Place (formerly funded) – Alameda
- Partnerships for Trauma Recovery – Alameda
- Amanecer Community Counseling Service – Los Angeles
- Safe Harbor-Trauma Recovery Center – Los Angeles
- County of Santa Clara District Attorney’s Office (newly funded) – Santa Clara
- Community Resource Center (newly funded) – San Diego
- Napa Solano SANE-SART – Solano
- A Quarter Blue – Orange
- Building Opportunities for Self-Sufficiency (newly funded) – Alameda

During the current fiscal year, CalVCB funds 18 TRCs statewide.

Information Security Verification

Victim specialists and all District Attorney’s Office staff with access to CalVCB computer systems are required to complete information security and privacy training annually. The training must include social engineering and phishing, privacy and password protection, browsing safety, and ransomware.

All new specialists and District Attorney’s Office staff with access to CalVCB computer systems must complete the training within 30 days from the date of hire.

Any training costs incurred will be the responsibility of that office.

In case of noncompliance, CalVCB may suspend access to CalVCB computer systems, including Cares2, until compliance is confirmed.

A section on security training requirements has been added to the annual confidentiality statement. The updated form is being sent to all offices and must be returned no later than Friday, April 28, 2023.

Vehicle Insurance Policy

Effective Dec. 1, 2022, CalVCB policy requires that an automobile-related claim be filed with any available vehicle insurance company, even if the applicant was a pedestrian or passenger. This includes the applicant's own vehicle insurance.

Additionally, filing a claim is required regardless of whether the crime resulted in a traffic accident.

While rare, vehicle insurance may be able to compensate victims in these situations. Therefore, it cannot be assumed that a reimbursement source is not available

Training Schedule

Do you have an event, training, or panel discussion you would like CalVCB to attend? Is there a specific training you and your team would like to request? Fill out our [presentation request form](#) and email it to infoadvocate@victims.ca.gov.

Keeping Cares2 Up to Date

Reminder: As you add or lose advocates on your team, email infoadvocate@victims.ca.gov with the changes. We will update our internal contact list and revise roles within Cares2.

Also, remember to log into your Cares2 account at least once every 90 days or it will automatically deactivate. To have it reactivated, you must email infoadvocate@victims.ca.gov.

Did You Know?

Under most circumstances, only a direct victim who suffers a period of disability due to a qualifying crime-related injury is eligible for income loss. However, parents or legal guardians of a victim, who at the time of the crime was under the age of 18 years and is hospitalized or dies as the direct result of a qualifying crime, may be eligible for up to 30 days of income loss. For all applications submitted on or after Jan. 1, 2003, compensation is to be based on the law in effect at the time the application was submitted. (Gov. Code, § 13959(d))

When considering reimbursement for a victim, the victim would be eligible for benefits in place at the time the application was filed.

If a California resident is victimized in another state and they apply with that state's compensation program, they may use benefits from California's compensation program once the benefits from the out-of-state program are exhausted. If the victim exhausts the benefit or is denied a benefit by the out-of-state program, CalVCB must receive documentation to verify the exhausted or denied benefit.

Contact Us

[Visit our Website](#)

California Victim Compensation Board

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