

History of VOICe

In 1978, the Volunteers Against Abuse Center (VAAC) of Butler County, Inc. organized from grassroots volunteers to address the specific needs of domestic violence victims. That same year, Center on Rape and Assault (CORA) also organized to address the needs of rape and incest victims. In 1993, CORA expanded its outreach and began offering services to victims of other crime; changing its name to Crime Victim Services (CVS).

The next logical step was to become one; creating a single comprehensive Agency that would provide confidential, professional services to all victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and other violent crimes. All agreed that this merger – the first voluntary merger of two distinct victim service agencies in Pennsylvania – would create a seamless continuum of care for all victims. By bringing together expert staff from both programs and reducing administrative overhead we would eliminate confusion and effectively increase funds available for essential victim services. On January 1, 2000, Victim Outreach Intervention Center was born.

VOICe remains the sole provider of comprehensive domestic violence, sexual assault and other crime services for the more than 180,000 people who call Butler County home. VOICe embraces a holistic approach to providing appropriate and meaningful services; creating a safe space where women, men and children in crisis can find support and guidance that nurtures self-determination, supports self-sufficiency, and encourages self-reliance. We are committed to reaching underserved populations and providing services to survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and other crimes that are non-discriminatory and celebrate the unique diversity of Butler County.

All free and confidential services provided by VOICe's staff and dedicated corps of volunteers are accessible to victims from three locations throughout Butler County. Our services include: 24-hour toll-free hotline, emergency shelter, transitional and supportive housing, individual and group educative counseling, legal advocacy, welfare and medical accompaniment, civil legal representation, comprehensive children's programming, prevention education, training services and community outreach.

FAQ's for Potential Board Members

How long is the Term?

4 Years from date of election to membership.

What will my financial obligation be?

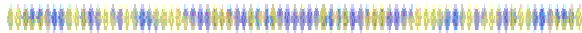
\$120.00 per year.

What will my monthly/yearly time commitment be?

Minimum of 3 hours per month. Yearly depends on committee involvement.

What is the length of the meetings?

1.5 hours



VOICe Utilizes the JARS Curriculum

JARS reflects the advocacy goals of justice, autonomy, restoration and safety, and presents an empowerment approach for advocates working with victims and their children.

Goals of JARS are:

To provide the core foundation of essential knowledge and skills for staff/volunteers who provide direct services to battered individuals.

To develop and enhance an advocate's knowledge and skills consistent with the philosophy and standards of VOICe



Victim Outreach Intervention Center

offers free and confidential services to victims of crime and abuse.

For more information call:

724-776-5910

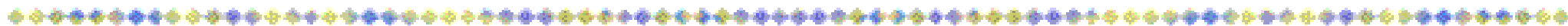
PO Box 293

Evans City, PA 16033

VOICe

Victim Outreach Intervention Center

Board of Directors



Victim Outreach Intervention Center Board of Directors

Mission Statement

VOICe is a system change organization that provides free and confidential services to individuals and families who are victims of violence.

VOICe works within the Community to bring about social change and to provide survivors with the resources, tools, and options that allow them to assert their personal power and self determination.

Philosophy Statement

To achieve this mission, Victim Outreach Intervention Center shall exemplify and promote the philosophy of self-determination in all activities. At the heart of this philosophy is the belief that each individual has the right and responsibility to be self-determining and to make choices that are appropriate to her/his life. In order to provide a forum for survivor's voices to be heard and validated:

VOICe assists survivors by helping them to understand violence as it occurs, not only in the context of their own life, but to encourage them to explore the societal conditions and attitudes which lead to violence.

VOICe provides survivors with a variety of free services including supportive/educational counseling, hotline, and crisis intervention.

VOICe advocates for survivors, not by speaking for them, but rather by seeking to share knowledge of the systems they are dealing with in order to enable them to act on their own behalf effectively and successfully.

VOICe believes that in order to eliminate violence in our lives, a systematic change in the public's attitude toward violence must occur.

VOICe works within our community to bring about change through education of the societal attitudes that have permitted a tolerance toward violence.

About the Board

- ◆ Upon Elections, Term of Office is 4 years.
- ◆ The Board of Directors shall act in establishing the policy and direction of the corporation in accordance with the mission statement.
- ◆ Shall be elected from the Community at Large.
- ◆ Shall be at least 21 years of age.
- ◆ Shall be voted upon by the full Board.
- ◆ Must complete the 16-Hour Board mandated training.

Board Committees

Executive Committee

- ◆ Makes policy recommendations to the Board.
- ◆ May exercise powers and authority between the time of the meetings of the Board including the implementation of board policy.

Standing Committee

- ◆ Develop policy regarding the administration of the Corporation.

Personnel Committee

- ◆ Make recommendations to the Board regarding personnel policies and job descriptions governing the work of the Corporation.
- ◆ Hire and set the salary including raises of the Executive Director by making recommendations to the full Board for approval.

Service Committee

- ◆ Conduct an annual review of the Corporations safety policy and procedures and the directing of any changes deemed necessary.
- ◆ Ensure an internal monitoring of residential services.

Fund Development

- ◆ Develop and execute an annual overall fund development plan.
- ◆ Oversee all fund development projects.
- ◆ Assist the Corporation in securing operating funds.

Fiscal Committee

- ◆ Monitor the integrity of the Agency's financial statement and any formal announcements relating to the Agency's performance.
- ◆ Ensure a working relationship between the external auditor and the executive management.
- ◆ Create a forum for discussion and channel of communication between the Board and the external auditors.
- ◆ Discuss the nature, scope and issues arising from the external audit.
- ◆ Review the external auditors management letter and managements response.
- ◆ Consider other topics as defined by the Board.