

**Ohio Attorney General (OAG) Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)
Campus Victim Advocacy Grant
Project Summary**

Total: \$129,762

Project Period: 10/01/2016 to 09/31/2017

PI: Renee Hill

Purpose: The initial funding has created a centralized victim advocacy support on campus. The FY17 Columbus State program is designed around three key deliverables: 1) Advocacy Personnel; 2) Advocacy Training; and 3) Awareness Outreach.

Victim Advocates – The program will continue to fund two trained victim response advocates available every day to serve as conduits to wraparound services for students, faculty and staff who are crime victims, victims of a sexual assault, or the victim of a sexually-oriented crime. The approach will be holistic, addressing two aspects of victim assistance – 1) immediate reporting and response services to address the incident and its aftermath and help the victim move forward; and 2) counseling to explore their situation and what needs the victim may have to create a safer and more secure environment. The following aspects will be addressed through the Victim Advocate program:

- Sexual assault advocacy
- Crime victim advocacy
- Counseling services
- Class/student support
- Career guidance
- Financial aid
- Disability services
- Homeless resources

Advocacy Training: The program will provide advocacy training sessions for students, faculty, and staff. Existing intervention and advocacy training is lacking from a packaged product. Columbus State will develop a set of training modules that focus on sexual assault awareness for student, faculty, and staff; along with training on how to acquire resources on campus or in the community. A focus will be made for special populations and cultures. The training initiative will include sexual assault awareness speakers and special events, campus video production, and printing for the curriculum and supplementary materials. The College will develop a core curriculum on sexual assault and what to do when a sexual assault has occurred. This would equip each of the advocates and the counselor with the resources needed for training to students, staff, and faculty. And also those in the online classroom community.

Two conferences will also provide additional infrastructure advocacy training. The Two Days in May event offers numerous professional development opportunities for victim advocates who serve their communities and the criminal justice system. The 2017 National Sexual Assault Conference in Washington D.C. is an annual two and a half days, advocacy-based conference providing advanced training opportunities and information regarding sexual violence intervention.

Awareness Outreach: The program will produce advocacy awareness resource materials for campus-wide distribution. The goal is to provide dedicated outreach to students, faculty and staff at the Columbus and Delaware campuses, and Regional Learning Centers on resources available.