



# 2022 Annual Report

June 1, 2021 - May 31, 2022

614 Spring St., Peoria, IL 61603 • Phone 309-368-1133

## PCAV



"PCAV is critical to our success as the region's only Level I Trauma Center and as a community at large. The help and services they provide are immeasurable and we rely on them at a moment's notice. In the very darkest of times when tragedy strikes, the members, the staff, the leaders of PCAV are true beacons to us all."

– Dr. Brad Phillips  
*Chief of Trauma Services and  
Surgical ICU Director*

"This is the image the community needs to see. The community bleeds when we're not a whole. These officers put a bandage on that wound today. We were all there for the same goal, and that's to show love and build relationships! I loved it!!!"

– Anonymous Mom  
*A private vigil outside of the  
hospital for family,  
PCAV, and PPD*

"I would like to extend my great gratitude for the services of Becky and her team. My sister and I were in a very horrific situation, with no hesitation PCAV helped so much. This letter nor words can really express the thankfulness I have for them. This is the type of organization that is needed in the community. Thank you so much."

– Jerricka

"Thank you, I feel better to know that there is someone who listens and cares. This means so much to me."

– Tiffany

"I just wanted to let you know that we thank you so much for continually helping us. I thank God every day for you all helping families who are wanting and needing to build better lives."

– Tonya

### RESPOND

### SUPPORT

### GUIDE

"A Safe Community Without Violence"

# OUR STAFF

*Cara Wilson, Crisis Case Manager*

*Becky Rossman, CEO*

*Keith McDaniel, COC*

I was drawn to the mission of Peoria Community Against Violence (PCAV) because I have consistently witnessed the horrifying impact of violence on people I care about. Five years ago, I spoke at a vigil after one of my beloved employees at Neighborhood House was murdered. I watched as so many children in our programs lost family members to gun violence. I worked with young men who dropped out of school and made no plans for their future because they didn't expect to live past age 25.

On my first day at PCAV, there were three shootings in our community. By the end of 2021, 143 Peoria residents had been shot. I learned that homicide is the leading cause of death for African American males ages 16 to 24, which helped me understand this tragic loss of hope. Now more than ever, I want to make a difference.

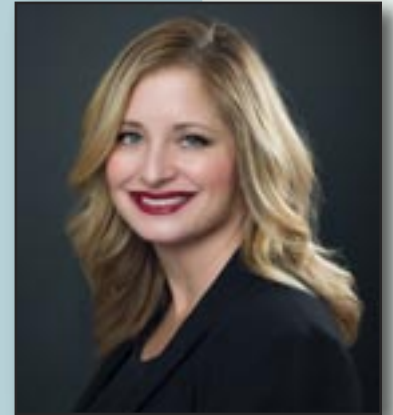
PCAV is attacking this issue in our community from multiple angles. We recruited a crisis response team to provide emotional support and de-escalation services at homicide scenes, and we paid for their training to become nationally certified through NOVA. We started bringing items such as water, chips, Kleenex, phone chargers, coloring books and crayons to help provide comfort to families of victims.

We also address the immediate needs of victims, their families and witnesses through crisis case management services. These services include crisis intervention after violent incidents, immediate safety relocation into hotels, assistance with rent and security deposits, community advocacy efforts, and connections with local and national burial resources.

In addition, we provide long-term, proactive case management services for families in need. These services are provided both internally and through referrals to a network of community organizations that specialize in trauma counseling, employment, education, and assistance with accommodations after paralysis. We could not provide these vital, comprehensive services without our community partners.

My biggest takeaway from the past year is the incredible resiliency of our community. The families we work with are persevering through unimaginable losses: of loved ones, of normalcy, of the ability to work and provide an income. Some of these issues seem insurmountable, yet we have been blessed to find individuals and organizations to fill in the gaps.

While PCAV cannot solve these complex issues on our own, the good news is that we're not alone. The growing number of compassionate helpers in our community gives me hope—but we can still use more volunteers. Are you motivated to make a difference? Our community needs you!



*Becky Rossman, CEO*

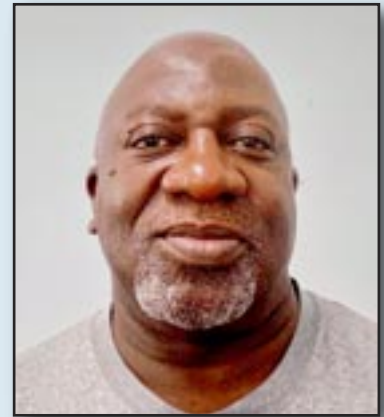


When I was asked to become a part of Peoria Community Against Violence, there was no question that my answer would be "Yes, I would love to join." I have witnessed the effects of poverty and violence on the Peoria community. I was anxious and excited to be a part of an organization that recognized these issues and sought solutions to these problems.

I know what it is like to grow up and struggle to escape a cycle of poverty. I am the oldest of five children who were raised by a single mother, without a father or positive male role model. The community I grew up in was very segregated and the African American community experienced poverty, harsh discrimination and violent behaviors. My family and I were products of a welfare system, yet our mother chose to not let that define us. Through my athletic ability and mother's encouragement, I left home at the age of 18 to attend Bradley University where I found acceptance with Dick Versace and the Bradley University Basketball Team. The journey from my humble beginnings gave me a desire to work hard, lead within my group of teammates and be successful. The proudest moment in my time at Bradley was when Coach Versace called me into a meeting to let me know he felt I was the "only man on the team." I knew then that my experiences growing up in poverty and on welfare had shaped me into the man I was becoming, which also led to our basketball team being inducted into the Bradley Hall of Fame.

While I am currently an Executive Director for Sharon Health Care here in Peoria, I have also been employed and volunteered in a variety of positions for over 40 years where I worked directly with or serving this great community.

PCAV, along with the assistance of the Peoria Police Department and other vital organizations in the Peoria area, are making positive contributions to the community plagued by violence. There is so much more that we as a community must continue to do, to address the root causes of violence in our city. In coordination with the police and other agencies, PCAV is able to make positive strides to heal. However, the bleeding in the community has not stopped. Please join me and PCAV to help the victims and end violence in our city.



**Bobby Ford, Board Chair**

## OUR BOARD 2021-2022

Thank you to those who came before us to get PCAV to this point. A special thank you to Andrew Barra, Angel Cruz, Eric Brown, Lisa Snow and Gloria Clark, who helped in the transition from a volunteer initiative to a professional and sustainable community organization.

**Bobby Ford, Board Chair**

**Bertha Mize Jackson, Vice Chair**

**Rev. Benjamin Nicks, Treasurer**

**Paul Gordon, Secretary**

**Dan Adler**

**Syed Ahmad**

**Chris Johnson**

**Heather Longfellow**

**Chris McCall**

**Shanna Shipman**

**Franklin Stacy**

**Janā Stevens**

**Linda Wilson**

# PARTNER AGENCIES

*"Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much" – Helen Keller*

We could not provide the services we do without the vast network of local and national organizations, businesses, and individuals. The organizations below have been instrumental in providing client resources, donations and/or volunteering.

Advocates for Access  
Afro American Firefighters Association  
Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.  
Carl Holloway/Male Mentor Monday  
Center for Prevention of Abuse  
Children's Home  
Crittenton Centers  
Dream Center  
East Bluff Community Center  
E.L.I.T.E Gamechangers  
First English Lutheran Church  
Friendship House  
Gentlemen of Distinction  
Greater Peoria Area Crime Stoppers  
Heart of Illinois United Way 2-1-1  
HOI Big Brothers Big Sisters  
Hult Center for Healthy Living  
It Takes A Village of Peoria, Inc.  
Jobs Partnerships  
Jubilee Ministries  
LCD Uniforms  
Lifting Up LLC  
Masters of Simple  
METEC  
Mosaic Graphics  
National Youth Advocate Program  
Neighborhood House  
New Beginnings Ministry  
OSF Mission Partners  
OSF Strive  
OSF Trauma Services  
Peoria Chiefs  
Peoria City/County Health Dept.  
Peoria County Coroner's Office  
Peoria County Probation

Peoria County State's Attorney's Office  
Victim Advocates  
Peoria Firefighters Local 50  
Peoria Police Department  
Peoria Public Schools  
Peoria Public Schools Foundation  
Potent Gratitude  
Prairie State Legal Services  
Proctor Center/Moonlight Coalition  
Product of the Projects  
Sharon Health Care Centers  
South Side Mission  
Stepping 4ward 2gether (S42)  
Unity Place  
Unity Point Trauma Services  
Urban Acres  
Westminster Childcare  
Young Lives



Keaira lost her boyfriend of ten years and father to her children, to gun violence in October 2021. Marteil worked full time so Keaira could go to school full time, creating more opportunities for their family. Keaira was facing her own grief, while being there for her children and determining how to financially support her family alone. PCAV was able to provide first month's rent and deposit so Keaira could move her children to an unknown, safer location. PCAV also provided crisis intervention, advocacy with social security, referrals to Neighborhood House's food pantry, Angel Tree program, and after school program, connected Keaira with Sharon Health Care for employment where she

still works, counseling referral to OSF Strive for Keaira, counseling referrals to Children's Home in school counseling services, and to Dream Center for home goods after her move.

**Proud to  
Support  
Peoria  
Community  
Against  
Violence**



**CEFCU**

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Federally Insured  
by NCUA



**We are thankful for the  
work PCAV does in  
partnership with  
community agencies  
and volunteers.**

*Caring for our Community!*

**McCALL**

*Law Offices, P.C.*



# DONORS

IT 360  
Syed Ahmad  
Jeffrey Alexander  
Corey Allen  
Jeffrey Allen  
Andrew Barra  
Jill Bogard  
Anne and Shane Bowman  
Broadway Lounge  
Barbara Buckley  
Lindsey Clark  
Kelly Jo Cone  
Beth Crider  
Norita Danner  
Lissa Diefendorf  
Hedy Elliott  
Katy Endress  
Roberta English  
Jason Fegley  
Pat and Laura Ferrell

Bobby Ford  
Getz Fire Equipment  
Andy Huey  
Dana Hughes  
Jerreia James  
Jerry James  
Charity Jeffs  
Jamie Kawolsky  
LCD Uniforms  
Debi Legaspi  
Kyle Lewis  
Heather Longfellow  
Chris McCall  
Keith McDaniel  
Brooke Miller  
The Oberhelman Family  
Foundation  
Trish O'Shaughnessy  
Jill Parker

Mugdha and Mandar Pattekar  
Peoria Chiefs  
Liz Pollack  
Amanda Rassi  
Ron Riggins  
Becky Rossman  
Pam Rumba  
Kim Sanders  
Kelly Schneider  
Shanna Shipman  
Jim Simmons  
Kelsey Solorio  
Janā Stevens  
Sherrell Stinson  
Andrea Tortora  
Alan Willadsen  
Bob Woolsey  
United Presbyterian Church  
Urban Acres



**SUPPORTS  
PCAV  
AND SERVES AS  
THE ONLY  
SPECIALIZED  
MENTAL HEALTH  
REHAB FACILITY  
(SMHRF) IN  
CENTRAL IL.**

**#MENTALHEALTHMATTERS**



**WE SUPPORT PCAV,  
OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS  
AND VOLUNTEERS.**

**Thank You!**



**SA Law and Consulting LLC**

# STATISTICS

## CRISIS RESPONSE

- **70%** of our cases are referred by Peoria Police Department, **30%** by community-based providers

### WE REFERRED:

- **84** clients to other victim service providers for additional help
- **116** clients to other services, supports and resources
- **11** clients to GED services, and **17** received employment assistance

### WE PROVIDED:

- **314** clients with crisis intervention, **109** with individual counseling (staff provided **349** sessions)
- **49** clients with emergency financial assistance, and **41** received relocation assistance
- **12** clients with economic assistance
- **40** clients with criminal advocacy or accompaniment
- **5** clients with advocacy/accompaniment to emergency medical care
- **24** clients with assistance applying for public benefits
- Additionally, PCAV assisted **31** clients in intervening with landlords, creditors, and employers
- **32** staff and volunteers received national certification in crisis response
- Staff spent **486** hours engaged in public awareness activities

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

### *2021 Audit Expenses*

*7% Administration*

*93% Program*



**Thank you to Ameren Illinois  
for their generous \$10,000 grant  
through Community Cares!**

**Proud to partner with PCAV  
in helping our community.**



In May 2021, NOVA (National Organization for Victim Assistance) made an exception during COVID to come to Peoria to certify PCAV staff and volunteers and OSF Strive staff in crisis response due to the prevalence of gun violence in our community. Why NOVA? They provide over 30 years of evidence informed and field-tested best practices. A NOVA Crisis Response Team is a group of individuals specifically trained to provide trauma mitigation, education and emotional first aid in the aftermath of a critical incident, either small scale or mass casualty.



With the help of our Crisis Response Team and Stepping 4ward 2gether, we were able to disseminate community resources in areas that were just affected by gun violence.



Board member Janā Stevens and Keith McDaniel helped with a fundraising opportunity at a Peoria Chiefs game.

## CRT VOLUNTEERS

Corey Allen  
Gretchen Amick  
Lindsey Clark  
Kenny Donnell  
Chris Duncan  
Bobby Ford

Mariama Ford  
Paul Gordon  
Brandon Hayes  
Germaine Hill Sr.  
Jerreia James  
Chris Johnson

Latonia Jones  
Keith McDaniel  
Bertha Mize Jackson  
Katie Neidetcher  
Sparkle Nicks  
Becky Rossman

Shanna Shipman  
Lisa Snow  
Dallas Terry  
Cara Wilson





Above: Keith McDaniel and Officer Keith Burwell hand out school supplies and snacks for neighborhood children.

Right: Layla, Mariama Ford, and Becky shared community resources and helped kids with art projects.



PCAV is proud to support the Peoria Police Department Resident Officers Sponsored Events, that provide back to school resources and fun activities for communities most affected by gun violence.



We appreciate WTVP's support and thoughtful discussion with H Wayne Wilson, regarding a collaborative approach to curbing violence in Central Illinois.

**A huge THANK YOU to Jason Fegley who volunteered just under 100 hours to help lift some special projects!**



We were honored by Par-a-Dice Hotel & Casino to be one of five organizations in their Wreath of Hope contest.



PCAV  
614 Spring St.  
Peoria, IL 61603

**"The Peoria Police's relationship with PCAV is extremely important. This relationship fosters communication between the police department and the community. PCAV assists the police department when we have to communicate with victims and their families during very difficult times for them. PCAV is also an extremely valuable resource for our community. They have helped numerous victims and their families through difficult times by providing a wide range of resources. The Peoria Police Department is extremely grateful to have PCAV working with us as a partner."**

**– Captain J. Matt Briggs  
Peoria Police Department  
Investigations Division**



Cara Wilson and Keith McDaniel, members of our Crisis Response Team, assisting the Peoria Police Department with neighborhood canvassing to provide information on our services to residents impacted by gun violence.



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