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”
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!
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.
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 Coronor'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.com

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
Robert 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

sharon healthcare

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
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

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 Janä Stevens and Keith McDaniel helped with a fundraising opportunity at a Peoria Chiefs game.

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.

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 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.
“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.