

Program Evaluation Training Update

▪ By Courtney Chapin

The Crime Victim Services Commission (CVSC) and the Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI) coordinate several one-day workshops on program evaluation each year. These workshops are designed and presented by Dr. Cris Sullivan from Michigan State University. The workshops guide agencies serving victims of crime through the process of designing an evaluation that meets their unique needs. Three versions of the workshop have been developed for different types of VOCA grantees – a general training suitable for all agencies, a session developed specifically for agencies serving children, and a session for agencies serving small or rural populations.

Last year's workshops were held in Lansing, Grand Rapids, and Gaylord and were well attended. As indicated in the past, training participants continue to find that the events offer useful information for conducting program evaluations in their own agencies. Participants also expressed their appreciation for Dr. Sullivan's knowledgeable and interesting presentation style. Based on ongoing positive feedback, these workshops will be offered again in 2009.

The general training will be held on May 29, 2009 at the Henry Center in Lansing. The second workshop, for agencies serving children, will be held on August 14, 2009 in Holland. The final workshop, for small or rural agencies, will be held in Traverse City on September 11, 2009. More information about these workshops has been mailed to agency directors and is also available on The Michigan Advocate website at: www.michiganadvocate.org. A training registration form may be accessed using the following link: <http://www.michiganadvocate.org/files/RegistrationFormFY09.pdf>.

For more information about the program evaluation training events, please contact Mary Zack Thompson at 517-324-8392 or mthompso@mphi.org.

Courtney Chapin, BS, is a Senior Research Assistant for the Crime Victim Services Commission Technical Assistance Project at the Michigan Public Health Institute.