

February 2019

Dear Friends of Crime Victims Council:

Survivors face numerous hurdles in the aftermath of crime, with many never coming forward or telling anyone. As a society we need to remember that crime can have a lasting impact on any person, regardless of age, national origin, race, creed, religion, gender, sexual orientation, immigration, or economic status. Negative responses can have devastating consequences for victims and can decrease the chance of their reaching out for further support or assistance. It doesn't matter when a crime took place or if you reported it or not. Crime Victims Council is here to listen to you, to support you, and to believe you.

Every April, in recognition of National Crime Victims' Rights Week, CVC hosts our Annual Victims' Rights Vigil. At this Vigil, we will celebrate the energy and commitment that launched the victims' rights movement more than 35 years ago while also looking to the future and the determination needed to ensure justice for all crime victims.

Our vigil is the perfect example of this year's National theme "Honoring Our Past, Creating Hope for the Future." The annual Vigil gathers survivors from years past and welcomes new survivors to join together in remembering and supporting one another. This year's Vigil will be on Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at the Memorial Tree of Life Grove and all are welcome. We hope you will join us at the Vigil, where survivors will be empowered to face their grief, loss, anger, and hope without fear of judgement and will feel understood, heard, and respected.

Suzanne M. Beck  
Executive Director