



Department of Justice



Office of Justice Programs

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JUSTICE DEPARTMENT HONORS PHILADELPHIA PROGRAM FOR SERVICE TO CRIME VICTIMS

WASHINGTON – The Department of Justice today recognized the program, Healing Hurt People (HHP), with the Award for Professional Innovation in Victims Services for its contributions to treating violence as a public health crisis. The award goes to programs, organizations, or individuals who help expand victims’ rights and services. The program was honored during the annual National Crime Victims’ Service Awards ceremony in Washington, D.C.

HHP is a community-focused, hospital-based program at the Center for Nonviolence and Social Justice at Drexel University designed to reduce re-injury and retaliation among victims of violence in Philadelphia, most of whom are boys and men of color age 8-30. HHP employs a trauma-informed approach, which takes into account the adversity that clients have experienced over their lifetimes and recognizes that addressing this trauma is critical to breaking the cycle of violence.

“This innovative hospital-based program, one of the few of its kind in the nation, gives young men in Philadelphia the resources they need to escape the pull of violence and recover from trauma,” said Acting Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Justice Programs Alan R. Hanson. “The Department of Justice is proud to honor Healing Hurt People for its outstanding service and for its unflinching pursuit of justice on behalf of the injured and aggrieved.”

During the ceremony, the Justice Department also recognized 11 other individuals and organizations for their outstanding efforts on behalf of crime victims. Awardees were selected from public nominations in nine categories, including federal service, special courage, public policy and victim services.

The Department’s Office for Victims of Crime leads communities across the country in observing National Crime Victims’ Rights Week. President Ronald Reagan proclaimed the first Victims’ Rights Week in 1981, calling for greater sensitivity to the rights and needs of victims. This year’s observance takes place April 2-8, with the theme *Strength. Resilience. Justice.*

The Office of Justice Programs, headed by Acting Assistant Attorney General Alan R. Hanson,

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provides federal leadership in developing the nation’s capacity to prevent and control crime, administer justice and assist victims. OJP has six bureaus and offices: the Bureau of

Justice Assistance; the Bureau of Justice Statistics; the National Institute of Justice; the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; the Office for Victims of Crime; and the Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering and Tracking. More information about OJP and its components can be found at www.ojp.gov.

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