May 2024; Ed. 21 THE GIST

Governor's Crime Commission Monthly Newsletter

Grants Information Stakeholders Training

New Governor's Crime Commission Member

Eleanor Burns is a chemistry student at NC State University and enjoys attending sporting events both as a member of the band and as a fan. She is involved in other student organizations centered around STEM and is passionate about combining scientific fields with

government and public law. Growing up in Raleigh, Eleanor loves exploring the different parks and museums in our community in her free time. She is excited to become more involved with the Governor's Crime Commission, and hopes to focus on programs with the goal of relieving the mental health crisis and gun violence currently



VAWA Reporting Tool Goes Live

On May 6th, the new reporting tool for the Violence Against Women Act Annual Reports went live. It can be found on the GCC and VAWAMEI websites. These annual reports are essential and required for all VAWA subrecipients because they are used by GCC and federal entities to assess best practices and funding needs for North Carolina and its communities. The new reporting tool will allow subrecipients to submit their report through a web-based form to GCC VAWA planning staff. The tool will be easier to navigate and submit than the previous PDF form, allowing subrecipients to see information that may be needed, is missing, or has been completed. GCC staff are providing resources and technical assistance to subrecipients as reports are due in the new reporting tool in June.

affecting students in our school systems.

May is Mental Health Awareness Month

During National Mental Health Awareness

Month in May and every month of the year, your mental health matters.

<u>Mental Health America</u> wants to focus on how to take care of your mental wellbeing this



month by teaching you how to <u>learn</u>, <u>act</u> and <u>advocate</u> in their "<u>Where to Start</u>" campaign. There are several resources on their website for MHAM. Some of these resources include a mental health month <u>toolkit</u>, outreach ideas, <u>information for</u> <u>media</u>, and "<u>Wear and Share</u>" bracelets to encourage people to talk about mental health.

Uniform Grants Guidance 2024 Read an updated version of the Uniform Grants Guidance for Federal financial assistance from The Office of Management and Budget.

Federal VOCA Funding Decreases

In 2024, federal Victim of Crime Act funding for North Carolina dropped

more than 42% to \$24.6 million. The decline, felt in every state in the nation, continues a 6-year downward trend and serves as a wake-up call for crime victims' rights advocates. At the



Governor's Crime Commission, we hear firsthand about the pinch felt in North Carolina's domestic violence shelters, rape crisis centers, child advocacy centers and other service organizations. See our updated <u>VOCA funding handout</u>.

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