



Family Crisis Services of Northwest  
Mississippi, Inc.  
Oxford, MS

Gulf Coast Women's Center for Nonviolence  
Biloxi, MS

Jackson Urban League, Inc.  
Jackson, MS

Mississippi Crime Victim Compensation  
Program  
Jackson, MS

Mississippi Department of Corrections –  
Division of Victim Services  
Jackson, MS

Mothers Against Drunk Driving  
Pearl, MS

Our House, Inc.  
Greenville, MS

Sharing Our Strength  
Hattiesburg, MS

Survival, Inc.  
Tupelo, MS

Wesley House Community Center  
Meridian, MS

Local District Attorney's Offices

# *PRESS Announcement*

Date: December 26, 2002  
Contact: Tara Frazier, Chair  
Phone: (601) 359.5628  
FAX: (601) 359.5719  
EMAIL: [tfrazier@mdoc.state.ms.us](mailto:tfrazier@mdoc.state.ms.us)

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Mississippi Coalition for Survivors of Homicide Victims Receives Grant Award**

Mississippi Coalition for Survivors of Homicide Victims, Inc. (MCSHV) has received a \$5000.00 **HOPE** grant from the US Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office for Victims of Crime. The *Helping Outreach Programs to Expand* grant was awarded to the Coalition to assist with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual *Weekend Retreat for Survivors of Homicide Victims* to be held June 6-8, 2003 in Canton, Miss.

MCSHV Chair and Victim Services Director for the Mississippi Department of Corrections-Division of Victim Services, Tara Frazier stated, "The coalition is very thankful to the Office for Victims of Crime for supporting survivors of homicide victims. With this funding, we can, for the third consecutive year, provide to survivors of homicide victims, an opportunity to meet and network with others who have survived the trauma of losing a loved one to an act of violence. Through this collaborative effort of many agencies in Mississippi, we are able to offer grassroots community-based victim services which stands to improve outreach and services to survivors of homicide victims."

Said John W. Gillis, Director of the Office for Victims of Crime, "[The grant funding] reflects the federal government's continuing commitment to providing critical services to victims of crime."

"Our agency is deeply pleased to learn that MCSHV has received this special grant for *Survivors of Homicide Victims*," said Mississippi Department of Corrections Commissioner Epps. Our agency's Division of Victim Services plays an integral helping hand role to victims of crimes. This grant will further enhance officials' ability to further provide justly needed services to victims."

The Mississippi Coalition for Survivors of Homicide Victims is an organization of service providers that provide support, advocacy and referrals to families and friends of homicide victims. The mission is to assist survivors in coping with the loss of a loved one to a criminal act and to educate and inform communities of the trauma an act of violence can cause.

Those who wish to attend the Weekend Retreat in June 2003 may contact MCSHV at 1-866-522-4087.

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