



Charity Lacey VP of Communications Identity Theft Resource Center O: 858-634-6390 C: 619-368-4373 clacey@idtheftcenter.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Identity Theft Resource Center[®] Announces New Coalitions as Part of National Identity Theft Victims Assistance Network Expansion (NITVAN II)

Five new coalitions have been selected to expand the network of support available to victim service providers and the victims they assist

San Diego – January 16, 2019 – Today, The Identity Theft Resource Center[®] (ITRC), a nationally recognized non-profit organization established to support victims of identity crime, announced five additional sub-grantees have been competitively selected to lead new coalitions. These sub-grantees will be working as part of the National Identity Theft Victims Assistance Network Expansion (NITVAN II) grant awarded to ITRC, by the U.S. Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime (OVC). Each sub-grantee will be awarded up to \$50,000 to help expand and improve victim assistance services in their respective states or regions. Through the development and enhancement of these coalitions, victim service providers will be better able to address the rights and needs of victims of identity crime.

The funding for this nationwide project is derived from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), through the Crime Victims Fund. This unique fund is financed by fines and penalties paid by convicted federal offenders, not from tax dollars.

--MORE--



N I T V A N NATIONAL IDENTITY THEFT VICTIMS ASSISTANCE NETWORK

"ITRC sees the devastating impact of identity theft on victims every day, emotional as well as economic," said Eva Velasquez, president and CEO of the Identity Theft Resource Center. "The NITVAN coalitions are working hard to make a difference in their respective service areas for these victims; building up the knowledge and capacity of local service providers to better meet victims' needs. We are excited to partner with five additional coalitions just as dedicated to mitigating the harm done to identity theft victims."

These new coalitions are building on the foundation that was created by the original NITVAN coalitions in 2010 as well as the ongoing efforts of the <u>current coalitions</u>. By adding these five new coalitions, NITVAN is continuing to expand the network of support available to victim service providers and the victims they assist. Through this grant, all of these coalitions along with the ITRC, the DOJ and OVC will be able to help more people in more ways, nationwide. Sub-grantees include the following entities:

Attorney General, New Mexico

Georgia Watch

Texas RioGrande Legal Aid

Vera House

WomenSpirit Coalition

For additional information on forming or joining a coalition in your area, please visit: http://www.nitvan.org/

###

About the Identity Theft Resource Center

Founded in 1999, the Identity Theft Resource Center[®] (ITRC) is a nationally recognized non-profit organization established to support victims of identity theft in resolving their cases, and to broaden public education and awareness in the understanding of identity theft, data breaches, cybersecurity,





scams/fraud, and privacy issues. Through public and private support, the ITRC provides no-cost victim assistance and consumer education through its call center, website, social media channels, live chat feature and ID Theft Help app. For more information, visit: <u>http://www.idtheftcenter.org</u>