



THE FEDERATION FOR VICTIM ASSISTANCE

The Federation for Victim Assistance was established in April 2005 to offer emotional and practical assistance to victims of crime.

The organisation was founded by Ms Máiread Fernane who is the current chairperson and the current president Mr. Derek Nally who was first to recognise the need for a support structure for victims of crime in Ireland over 30 years ago.

Mr. Pat Cox former President of the European Parliament is the Federation's Patron.

There are currently eight branches throughout the country and this is set to increase during 2009. Most of the seventy plus members of trained volunteers have a wealth of experience in caring for victims with some involved for over twenty years.

These volunteers are the lifeblood of Victim Assistance without whom it would be unable to provide this much needed service to victims.

Victim Assistance would like to acknowledge the funding and support it receives from the Commission for the Support of Victims of Crime which was set up by the Department of Justice, Equality and Law Reform in 2005.

Victim Assistance is a registered charity.

It offers a free and confidential service to victims.

www.victimassistanceireland.com
Email: fedva@eircom.net • Tel/Fax: 066 7119830 (Head Office)
Registered Charity No.: CHY17078

CONFERENCE

VICTIMS OF CRIME - Making the System Work.



Saturday 7th February 2009
Green Isle Hotel, Naas Road, Dublin



Federation for Victim Assistance
WORKING FOR VICTIMS RIGHTS

speakers profile

Mr. Pat Cox

He retired from European Parliamentary politics in 2004 having served his term as President of the European Parliament from January 2002 to July 2004. He was an active campaigner for the successful enlargement of the European Union and the European Parliament senior representative on the Intergovernmental Conference on the Constitutional Treaty of the EU. Having worked as an economist and broadcaster, Pat Cox was first elected to the European Parliament for the constituency of Munster in 1989, leading the Liberal Democrat group from 1998 to 2002.

Earlier he was the founding Secretary General of the Progressive Democrats in Ireland and was a Member of Dail Eireann in the early 1990s.

Born in Ireland in 1952, married with six children, Cox graduated from Trinity College in Dublin in 1974. He is the holder of a number of Honorary Doctorates and has been awarded their highest national awards by a number of EU states.

Professor Marc Groenhuijsen is Head of the Department of Criminal Law at Tilburg University where since 2005 he has been professor in criminal law, criminal procedure and victimology. A widely published legal author his expertise includes the areas of Victimology and Criminal Procedure. Marc is also a part time judge in the District Court of Rotterdam and part time judge in the Court of Appeals of Arnhem and is former chairman of the Dutch Association for Victim Assistance. In 2005 he founded and became the first director of INTERVICT (International Victimology Institute Tilburg). He is also a former chairman of the European Forum for Victims Services.

Dr. Carol Coulter

Carol Coulter joined The Irish Times in 1986, and worked as a reporter in Dublin and acting editor in London and Belfast before becoming Deputy News Editor in 1990. She returned to writing in 1995 and became Legal Affairs Correspondent in 1997. From October 2006 to October 2007 she was on leave from The Irish Times to run a pilot project on family law reporting for the Courts Service, and then returned to The Irish Times as its Legal Affairs Editor. She holds a Ph D in English, a Diploma in Legal Studies and an M Phil in law, and is the author of a number of books and academic articles on social and cultural affairs. Her book on family law as practised in the Circuit Court will be published shortly by Clarus Press.

Assistant Commissioner An Garda Síochána Louis Harkin has served in various stations in Dublin, the South West and North West of Ireland, the Garda Community Relations Section and the Garda College in Templemore. Attached to Garda Headquarters since 1998, he has had postings in the Strategic Management Initiative office, and the Change Management Unit. Following appointment to the rank of Assistant Commissioner in May 2007, he took charge of the Strategy branch of An Garda Síochána. As part of his remit he has responsibility for the Community Relations Section, Change Management Unit and the Garda College. He holds a B.A. in Public Administration, an MBS in Human Resource Strategies and is a Barrister at Law.

Mr. Gerard Colleran has been Editor of The Star since late 1999. During that time The Star has increased its market share of the popular and overall newspaper market - unique as the only daily newspaper managing sales increases of over 20% on average. A contributor to radio and television current affairs programmes. Mr Colleran was previously editor of The Kerryman/The Corkman series of newspapers. Born in Mayo, raised in Clare, he is married with three children.

Dr. Michael Corry qualified from UCD in 1973. He currently works as a consultant psychiatrist at the Institute of Psychosocial Medicine which he co-founded in 1987, and Clane General Hospital. He is the co-author of *Going Mad? Understanding Mental Illness and Depression: An Emotion not a Disease*. After qualifying he worked as a volunteer doctor in Uganda and on his return commenced his training in psychiatry and completed a Masters degree in psychotherapy. In July 2004 he commenced a series of ongoing monthly public meetings called *Depression Dialogues* from which evolved the web site www.depressiondialogues.ie and in June 2007 Psychosis Dialogues also a series of monthly public meetings. He is currently developing another site www.wellbeingfoundation.com

Federation for Victim Assistance CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

9.30am	Registration and Coffee
10.15am	Words of Welcome- Máiread Fernane, Chairperson of the Federation for Victim Assistance
10.20am	Address and Official Launch of Conference – Mr. Pat Cox
10.35am	Victims Rights in Europe – “Practical Issues, Interpretation and Implementation” Professor Marc Groenhuijsen
11.10am	The Reality – A Victims Story
11.20am	Tea & Coffee
11.40am	“The Use of Victims in the Criminal Justice Agenda” Dr. Carol Coulter
12.30pm	LUNCH
1.45pm	Welcome Back – Assistant Commissioner Louis Harkin Conference Chair – Afternoon Session
1.55pm	“Victims of Crime in Ireland – A Media View” Mr. Gerard Colleran
2.25pm	The Reality – A Victims Story
2.35pm	“Healing the Impact of Crime” Dr. Michael Corry
3.10pm	Panel Discussion - Q & A
4.10pm	Closing Remarks - Mr. Derek Nally, President of the Federation for Victim Assistance
	Slán Abhaile

BOOKING FORM

Please complete and return to
FEDERATION FOR VICTIM ASSISTANCE
C.D.P., Rock Street, Tralee, Co. Kerry
By Monday 2nd February, 2009.

Name

Address

Phone Number Mobile Number

Email

Organisation

Special Requirements (Access, Dietary etc...)

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Payment: Cheque Other

Amount €40 per person. (Includes conference, lunch, tea and coffee.)

www.victimassistanceireland.com
Email: fedva@eircom.net • Tel/Fax: 066 7119830 (Head Office)
Registered Charity No.: CHY17078

The Federation for Victim Assistance

cordially invites

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to its
CONFERENCE

VICTIMS OF CRIME - Making the System Work.



Saturday 7th February 2009
Green Isle Hotel, Naas Road, Dublin
at 9.30am

To confirm please complete the booking form overleaf



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