



CRCSTL News & Updates

September/October 2023

Our Vision is for communities to have the tools to resolve conflict creatively and reach meaningful, equitable solutions.



It's been a busy, busy summer!

We attended so many amazing community events throughout the summer including the **Urban League Back to School Expo**, **Annie Malone Family Fest**, and the **OVP August Kickback**.

We had a blast getting out into the community to talk about conflict resolution with our neighbors! See more in the Out & About Section.

You can also sign up to be a volunteer for a future event or just keep

up-to-date with upcoming events using the links below.

Sign up to be a volunteer and receive a weekly update via email

Stay up to date with our Calendar of Events

HIGHLIGHTS: Out & About

August 5 - Urban League Back to School Expo



August 12 - Annie Malone Family Fest - Back to School Event





August 19 - OVP Kickoff at Marquette Park



A Word from Our Executive Director Wolf Smith

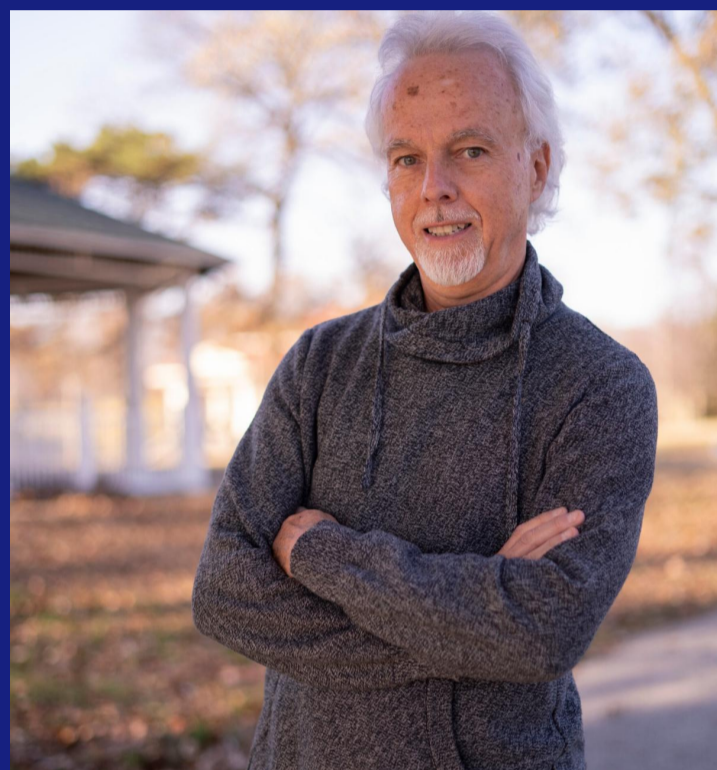
With pumpkin spice flavored everything on the shelves, we're (un)officially in my favorite season: Fall. For me, Fall celebrates the transition and change of all things. Some people celebrate cooler temperatures, others celebrate changing leaves, and others celebrate (or dread) the return to school.

For CRCSTL, we are celebrating our own changes this Fall. Over the last month we've brought on new staff and interns, shifted some existing staff towards a greater focus on conflict prevention and education, and begun training a brand-new cohort of students in Student Led Peer Mediation.

To that end, we would like to extend a very warm welcome to our newest staff member at CRCSTL, LaPortia Jones! LaPortia has a background in dispute resolution and non-profit program coordination, and we are all very excited to welcome her to our team!



While change can be scary, we believe change is an opportunity to do even better.



A Message from Our Board

Don Morgan
Vice-Chair & Secretary

I came to live in the city of Saint Louis in 2014. I had lived my whole life up to that point in New Jersey or New York City, and the Midwest was a mystery. As I explored St. Louis I found, time and again, good people working hard to make this city a more just, livable and attractive place. I have continued to be privileged to meet and get to know such creative, dedicated folks who contribute to our community in the realms of politics and social justice, music, the arts, food and brewing, sports, architecture and preservation, healthcare, urban ecology and education.

I've been on the Board of Directors of CRCSTL for almost as long as it has existed and my connection with the Board and staff has been another demonstration to me of how special St. Louis and its people are. When the Board hired Wolf -with both law and MSW degrees -as our first Executive Director and they hired Reshad as Program Director - another lawyer with an impressive resume working in high-level policy positions in DC -we were impressed that such highly qualified people who could be making much higher salaries in other sectors would want to work in the nonprofit sector. And as we've come to know them and the staff they have hired, we see that there is a top-down shared sense that they are all doing inspired, socially important work. Those values have been present in all the Board members I've known and it is most gratifying to all of us on the Board to see these most important human values inspiring and shining in all who work for CRCSTL. We all are most gratified to see that CRCSTL is in such good hands, doing good work for our fellow humans in a city that I am happy to now call home.



HIGHLIGHTING OUR PARTNERS

What's the difference between the STL Area Violence Prevention Commission (VPC) and the City of STL Office of Violence Prevention (OVP)?



ST. LOUIS AREA VIOLENCE PREVENTION COMMISSION (VPC)



CITY OF ST. LOUIS OFFICE OF VIOLENCE PREVENTION (OVP)

When was the organization established, by whom, and how?	The St. Louis Area Violence Prevention Commission was initially convened by Washington University and the United Way of Greater St. Louis in 2016. Saint Louis MHB, a special taxing district for the City of St. Louis, became the fiscal sponsor for VPC in 2018.	The City of St. Louis Office of Violence Prevention was established in 2022 when Mayor Tishaura Jones signed Board Bill 65. It is housed in the City of St. Louis Department of Public Safety with a dedicated budget to support staff and programs.
Who are members of the organization?	VPC is a cross-sector coalition of community members, nonprofit organizations, government entities, institutions, and other stakeholders. VPC has more than 70 member agencies. Membership is open to any group or individual who wants to work on violence prevention.	OVP is not a membership organization, but acts as coordinating body for the City's efforts to create safe and healthy neighborhoods free of violence.
Where does the organization work?	VPC works regionally in St. Louis City and County.	OVP works in St. Louis City.
How is the organization staffed?	Jessica Meyers is the Director of the St. Louis Area Violence Prevention Commission. She is the only full-time staff member. Serena Muhammad, Saint Louis MHB Deputy Director, provides additional part-time staff support. Lisa Potts, Saint Louis MHB Director of Prevention Partnerships, provides support for grant funded projects.	Wilford Pinkney Jr. is the Director of the Office of Violence Prevention. Mo Farrell is the Deputy Director. OVP has filled 50% of its 18 positions.
What partnerships does the organization have?	VPC convenes committees to advance the Community Health Improvement Plan of the City and County Health Departments. VPC actively supports all OVP key partnerships.	OVP is the main point of contact for several national initiatives that provide technical assistance and resources for the City of St. Louis' violence prevention efforts, including Cities United, Center for Policing Equity, National League of Cities (NLC), and the National Offices of Violence Prevention Network.

Keep up to date with SLPM news at peermediation.net

Learn more about our Workplace Solutions programming.

Upcoming Events & Dates of Interest

September 9th
St. Louis Community Associations Organization (SLACO) Annual Conference - *see flyer to right*

September 16th · 2 pm–6 pm
OVP Kickback - Columbus Square - *see flyer below*
O'Fallon St between 8th & 9th Streets

September 26th · 6 pm - 7:30 pm

Renter's Townhall

Deaconess Center for Child Well-Being
1000 North Vandeventer Ave, 63113

October 2nd

CRCSTL Events & Education Volunteer Committee Meeting

October 3rd

National Night Out

October 9th

Indigenous Peoples Day *CRCSTL offices closed*

October 20th · 8:30 am - 4 pm

NonProfit Marketers Network Conference

Executive Director Wolf Smith speaking +
CRCSTL Table

Webster University • 470 E Lockwood Ave,
Webster Groves, 63119

October 21st

Diamond Diva's Domestic Violence Prevention Walk - see flyer below

October 21st · 2 pm–6 pm

OVP Kickback - Beckett Park

October 24th · 2 pm– 5 pm

St. Louis Apartment Association (SLAA) Fall Expo • slaa.org

St. Charles Convention Center • One Convention Center Plaza, St. Charles, 63303

Free and you do not have to be a member to attend - see flyer below

October 26th · 9 am–1 pm

STLMHC Landlord Networking Event

St. Patrick Center • 800 N. Tucker, 63101

October 31st

Renter's Townhall

Deaconess Center for Child Well-Being • 1000 North Vandeventer Ave, 63113

October 31st

Halloween



27TH ANNUAL SLACO
REGIONAL NEIGHBORHOOD
CONFERENCE

REIMAGING ST. LOUIS

ST. LOUIS COMMUNITY
COLLEGE - FOREST PARK

ADDRESS:
5600 Oakland Avenue,
St. Louis Mo. 63110

SEPT. 9, 2023.
7:30AM-1:30 PM

Honoring Rick Bonasch
Community Development Award.

Commerce Bank
Challenge Accepted.

GREATER
ST. LOUIS INC.

ENTERPRISE
BANK & TRUST

Mid-America
TRANSPLANT
inspired by life

Event Bright Registration:
www.eventbrite.com/e/27th-a289757nnual-slaco-regional-neighborhoods-conference-tickets-687513



POWERED BY DIAMOND DIVA EMPOWERMENT FOUNDATION

DIAMOND DIVA
EMPOWERMENT FOUNDATION

3rd Annual DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS RALLY & WALK

SAT, OCTOBER 21ST
REGISTER @ 9AM & WALK @ 10AM

IN THE GROVE AT 1027 S. VANDEVENTER AVE
ORDER YOUR PURPLE RALLY & WALK T-SHIRT
ONLINE AT WWW.2DEF.ORG/SHOP



JOIN US AT THE
OVP KICKBACK

PRESENTED BY:
THE ST. LOUIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY'S OFFICE OF VIOLENCE PREVENTION

DATE: SAT | SEPTEMBER 16TH
LOCATION: 1228 N 9TH STREET
O'FALLON ST. BETWEEN 8TH & 9TH
TIME: 2PM - 6PM

FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY
#STL #3STEPSBACK #DPS#OVPKICKBACK

SPECIAL PERFORMANCE BY:
STORY STITCHERS

COMMUNITY RESOURCES | FREE FOOD | GAME TRUCK



2023
FALL EXPO

DON'T MISS OUT!

- ✓ 90+ SUPPLIER COMPANIES
- ✓ GIVEAWAYS
- ✓ CASH PRIZES
- ✓ FOOD & DRINKS
- ✓ OVER 500 ATTENDEES!
- ✓ AFTER PARTY @ BAR LOUIE

DON'T MISS THIS EVENT!

October 24th
2:00 - 5:00pm

MORE DETAILS:
www.slaa.org
email: info@slaa.org

ST. CHARLES CONVENTION CENTER
ONE CONVENTION CENTER PLAZA
ST. CHARLES, MO 63303

Follow CRCSTL on social media to stay up to date on community events in St. Louis featuring us and our partners!



How can we help you?

Neighbor disputes? Landlord or Tenant Issues? We can help!

Get help from CRCSTL

Get in touch

20 S. Sarah Street
St. Louis, MO 63108

314.255.7449

info@crcstl.org



Visit our Website



Conflict Resolution Center - St. Louis | 20 S. Sarah Street, St. Louis, MO 63108

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