

Preparing for a Mass Violence Incident in Your Community:
Lessons Learned and Strategies to Improve Preparedness
Plans to Address Victim Needs

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Presentation Abstract: In working with communities and agencies that have experienced the devasting impact of a mass violence incident in their community, the most common "lesson learned" is that the more prepared a community is for mass violence, the more resilient the individuals and community members are able to be. While most communities have begun to develop plans for a potential MVI in the community, victim services are rarely included in these plans. This session will present the 16 Best Practices to MVI Preparedness, with examples and lessons learned from specific communities. We will also describe the many resources available to help survivors, professionals, first responders, and communities from the National Mass Violence Center.

**Speaker Bio:** Angela Moreland, Ph.D., is an Associate Professor at the National Crime Victims Research and Treatment Center (NCVRTC) at the Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC). Dr. Moreland currently serves as the Associate Director of the National Mass Violence Center (NMVC), an OVC-funded initiate aimed at improving community preparedness and the nation's capacity to serve victims recovering from mass violence through research, planning, training, technology, and collaboration. Dr. Moreland also serves as the Director of the Improving Community Preparedness Division of the NMVC.