



National Crime Victim Service Award

Steven R. Siegel

Denver, Colorado

Steve Siegel has served crime victims at the local, state, and national levels for over 29 years. Steve is a state and national expert with an incredible range of knowledge and experience. He is the literal definition of the term "pioneer"—from his early efforts to support the National Organization for Victim Assistance, serving as an Advisory Board member for the National Victim Center (now known as the National Center for Victims of Crime) to his role as a founding member and board member of the National Victims' Constitutional Amendment Network (NVCAN) in 1986. He has also spent his career mentoring new victim advocates, showing by example the importance of their work. Steve's accomplishments are vast and range from the creation of one of the first domestic violence "fast track" programs in the nation, to his current efforts to create a domestic violence triage system to more safely and effectively serve the 5,000+ victims that pass through the Denver system annually. Steve serves on the Executive Committee of the NVCAN Board of Directors. In that role, Steve has provided consultation and technical assistance to over 20 states as they successfully sought to pass their state-level constitutional amendments. Steve currently serves as the Director of Program Development for the Denver District Attorney's Office. Under Steve's innovative leadership, the Denver District Attorney's Office has received funding for the creation of multiple projects that have become national models, including Victim Services 2000, which is a demonstration model of a coordinated victim services network. As illustrated by these and many other efforts, Steve has an amazing ability to address the needs of crime victims in large and small ways. He deals daily with individual crime victims and with the state and national policy issues that help determine what services and resources are in place to support crime victims. Steve is recognized as a leader, a pioneer, and perhaps most importantly, a mentor to countless colleagues who count on him for guidance and support. He is truly selfless in giving his time and expertise - to victims and survivors, victim advocates, justice and allied professionals, and the news media. Steve was nominated by Mary McGhee, Colorado Department of Human Services, with support from Nancy Lewis, Steve Derene, Anne Seymour, and 17 other supporters from the victim services field.