

Lynn Shiner, Victim Support Facilitator, Independent Reconciliation and Reparations Program



Lynn Shiner has 37 years of experience in state government, primarily in operations improvement and efficiency, and in advocacy for victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse.

She currently serves as a consultant for national victims services programs and organizations nationwide. She specializes in grant review, legislative analysis, strategic planning, process development, system improvements, and public policy.

Previously, from 2011 to 2015, she served as Director of the Office of Victims' Services with the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency. In this role, she was responsible for the development of a plan to distribute more than \$100 million in state and federal funding to victims of crime throughout Pennsylvania.

She oversaw the Commonwealth's Victims Compensation Assistance Program, which processed claims and provided payments to victims of crime at an average of \$13 million annually on behalf of 9,000 victims. She developed this program into a national model through streamlining processes, legislative changes, and technology enhancements that ensured the program remained victim-centered and eased the financial burden on victims and their families.

She led this work with the passion of a victim who had experienced a tragedy of her own. Her young children, Jen and Dave, were murdered on Christmas Day 1994. She remains committed to making changes to improve the lives of other victims and advocates for the protection of children through the Jen and Dave Law, enacted in 1996, which permits a parent involved in a custody case to access information about criminal charges filed against the other parent and allows that information to be used in custody decisions. She has raised more than \$160,000 in donations to state and local victim service programs.

Lynn has received many honors and awards for her work. In 2004, she was presented with the National Crime Victim Service Award by Attorney General John Ashcroft, and also received the Edith Surgan Award for Outstanding Leadership from the National Organization for Victim Assistance. In 2014, she was presented with the Visionary Voice Award by the National Sexual Violence Resource Center.

She is the co-author of several books, including *Stabbed in the Heart: Three Murdered Children, Two Resilient Mothers* and *Grief: The Event, The Work, The Forever*. She is also co-author of *Drew & the Grief Thief*, A story for children & adults experiencing death & grief.