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# Media Advisory

## Tree of Life Synagogue Shooting

**WHEN:** Saturday October 27, 2018

**WHAT:** Today, the entire Pittsburgh Region was impacted by a senseless act of mass violence at The Tree of Life Synagogue in Squirrel Hill; As of the time of this advisory, Eight people have been killed and at least six others have been injured, including 4 police officers.

When a traumatic experience occurs, a person's or community's sense of safety and well-being is often so damaged that normal ways of coping cannot be maintained, or don't seem to work. After a violent/traumatic experience, victims may have problems that they did not exist before the trauma. It is important to remember that unresolved trauma can negatively affect the mental, physical, emotional, financial and spiritual health of individuals and their loved ones – even for years to come.

**WHO WE ARE:** Center for Victims is the most comprehensive and inclusive provider of services, advocacy and education for all victims of crime in Allegheny County and in Pennsylvania. **Center for Victims is here to help.**

**WHAT WE OFFER:** Our trained crisis response team can offer the following services:

- Assistance in creating and providing crisis response plans and protocols.
- After an incident occurs, we offer best practice consultation and recommendations for getting back to business as soon as possible with the highest degree of sensitivity yet practicality.
- Training in understanding the basics of trauma and appropriate response, to the “new different” that will emerge as a result of what your business/organization, staff, and consumer has experienced.
- Guidance with communication regarding what has occurred, including assistance with press releases, communication to all outside interests, and creating internal policies and procedures that ensure sensitivity as well as predicting and preparing for the challenges ahead.
- Human Resource assistance in identifying “at risk” behaviors in potential employees.