

Steve Doerner Bio

Steve began his professional career in the public education system as a teacher in 2008 before joining NOVA's staff as a prevention education coordinator in 2012 where he would design and implement prevention programs for teens, adults and professionals. In 2015 Steve moved on to supervise NOVA's victim advocacy department, where he would oversee and implement direct services for victims of crime in Bucks County. Steve currently serves as the Director of the Bucks County Children's Advocacy Center, which oversees and coordinates a multidisciplinary investigative response to child abuse as well as crimes against vulnerable adults. Steve is a 2007 graduate of Delaware Valley University is currently pursuing his Master's Degree in LaSalle University's Nonprofit Leadership program.

NOVA's Special Victims Investigations (SVI) Program: Innovation and Collaboration in Protecting Vulnerable Adults

NOVA's Special Victims Investigations program piloted in January of 2017, creating a specialized multidisciplinary investigative response to vulnerable adults in Bucks County who are suspected to have been victims of or witness to interpersonal violence, including physical and sexual abuse. Through strong partnerships the program quickly gained momentum and success, and has since been cited as the basis for the PA Commonwealth standards for forensic interviews with vulnerable adults. This 90 minute session will take participants through the critical stages of early program development and collaboration with key partners, to applicable case studies yielding lessons learned, successful resolutions and the strategic visions for the future of the program.