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Anita Busch

Anita Busch is the Treasurer, Key Co-Founder, and Founding President of VictimsFirst. Her family has suffered through two mass shootings and she has since helped victims/survivors and/or communities behind the scenes in 55 mass casualty crimes.

After her cousin, Micayla, was murdered at the movie theater massacre in Aurora, CO, Busch vowed to change things for the better. She began by helping to create a new model for charitable giving to ensure that 100% of donations collected for victims of mass casualty crime actually go directly to those victims and fulfills donor intent. She gathered families of those killed in 9/11, Columbine, Virginia Tech, Northern Illinois University, Aurora, Oak Creek Sikh Temple and Sandy Hook – to craft a protocol for, establish, name, fund and market the National Compassion Fund. Since its inception, and led by national expert Jeff Dion, it has distributed \$150 million directly to victims in over 30 mass incidents. Anita served as its Key Co-Founder and Mass Violence Specialist. In 2023, Dion, the board, his entire staff and founding mass shooting families left the NCF and severed ties with its parent nonprofit (see Revictimization section) and formed the Mass Violence Survivors Fund. Anita also serves as Key Co-Founder and Mass Violence Specialist.

Anita also compiled the nation's first Best Practices for Mass Casualty Crime -- the only live, trauma-informed document that helps communities organize without re-victimizing victims. Best Practices has since been shared by politicians, mass shooting victims and communities worldwide. Anita is also the media consultant for the No Notoriety campaign and helped to develop its protocol with its founders Caren and Tom Teves whose son, Alex, was murdered in the mass shooting in Aurora. No Notoriety has been endorsed by law enforcement and politicians worldwide.

Anita previously worked pro bono with the Association for the Recovery of Children, a nonprofit run by former FBI and CIA officers which rescues kidnapped and sex-trafficked children.

Anita is a nationally-known journalist, and is a survivor of violent crime.



