



2019-2020 Public Policy Agenda

January 2019

The Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Inc. (WCASA) is a membership agency comprised of 55 sexual assault service providers (SASPs) across the state working to end sexual violence in Wisconsin. We developed this Public Policy Agenda consistent with our vision, mission, and foundation. However, this is a living document. We encourage legislators, survivors, SASPs, and others to contact us with other public policy ideas throughout the 2019-2020 legislative session in Wisconsin.

Vision: A socially just world in which all people value equity and healthy sexuality.

Mission: Creating the social change necessary to end sexual violence.

Foundation: To end sexual violence, we must also end all forms of oppression.

Anti-Oppression Framework: To achieve our mission of ending sexual violence, we must also end all forms of oppression. Anti-oppression work is, in fact, also sexual violence prevention work. We stand in solidarity with our allies working on issues of racial justice and other oppressions.

For more information about WCASA: <https://www.wcasa.org/who-we-are/vision-mission-philosophies>

Sexual Violence Specific Issues:

These policy priorities are specific to sexual assault. As the statewide sexual assault coalition, WCASA often assumes leadership responsibility on these topics. We also seek out support from our membership, other stakeholders, and survivors to support these policy initiatives.

Sexual Assault Services and Prevention Funding

WCASA supports increasing funding for sexual assault victim services and prevention, as well as prioritizing funding for historically marginalized communities that are disproportionately impacted by sexual violence.

Campus Sexual Assault

WCASA supports partnerships between campuses and SASPs to provide truly confidential, community-based sexual assault victim services and to implement comprehensive, effective prevention strategies.

Sexual Assault Kits

WCASA supports increasing survivors' access to information regarding their sexual assault kits, as well as codifying existing protocols to ensure that kits are sent to the Crime Lab and tested in a timely manner.

Sexual Harassment

WCASA supports strengthening workplace sexual harassment protections, including: expanding protections to more workers, increasing accountability for employers and individual harassers, enhancing transparency while preserving victim autonomy, and requiring sexual harassment prevention.

Statute of Limitations for Child Victims (civil suit)

WCASA supports expanding or abolishing the time limits (i.e., statutes of limitations) within which a victim of child sexual assault can bring a civil suit against the perpetrator.

Access to Confidential Survivor Information

WCASA supports clarifying the threshold that defense attorneys must meet to obtain survivors' confidential records.

Housing

WCASA supports increased flexibility for survivors to terminate their rental agreement, including lessening the proof requirements in housing law.

Sex Trafficking

WCASA supports addressing sex trafficking through effective prevention and intervention that treats affected individuals as victims/survivors and by placing greater focus on ending the demand for sex trafficking.

Allied Issues:

These policy initiatives are not specific to sexual assault, yet they are core to our organizational foundation and are integral to our work. As the statewide sexual assault coalition, WCASA will follow the lead of allied organizations as they identify policy priorities.

Racial Justice

WCASA supports protecting the rights, freedoms and well-being of people of color, including reforms to criminal justice and other system responses to eliminate their negative and disproportionate impact on people of color.

LGBTQ+ Rights

WCASA supports protecting the rights, freedoms and well-being of members of LGBTQ+ communities.

Economic Justice

WCASA supports addressing systemic, economic inequities that disproportionately impact historically marginalized communities.

Reproductive Health and Access

WCASA supports protecting and advancing reproductive health, including access to comprehensive reproductive health services and medically accurate sexual health education.

Violence Prevention

WCASA supports providing effective prevention in and outside of schools on various topics, including: teen dating violence, gun violence, and other violence impacting communities.

Health Care

WCASA supports policies that will effectively address health disparities that are rooted in race and geography and creating an insurance program that provides workers with access to paid family and medical leave.

If you have questions or feedback, please contact:

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