



WISCONSIN COALITION AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT

INTERVENE • ADVOCATE • EDUCATE

ANNUAL REPORT – 2010

“No social advance rolls in on the wheels of inevitability. It comes through the tireless efforts and persistent work of dedicated individuals.”

– Martin Luther King, Jr.

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Mission:

The Wisconsin

Coalition

Against Sexual

Assault

creates the

social change

necessary to

end sexual

violence.

The Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Inc. (WCASA) is a statewide coalition consisting of individual, affiliate, and sexual assault service provider members. The member programs provide comprehensive sexual assault services in counties across the state. WCASA staff impacts state policy development and provides technical assistance, training, public awareness, and prevention education. WCASA is a private, nonprofit organization established in 1985. WCASA is committed to effecting changes in policies, in systems, and in society with the goals of improving services for victims/survivors of sexual assault and ending sexual violence. These goals are reflected in the initiatives and programs supported and driven by WCASA.

Our mission is based on the following philosophy:

We believe it is a basic human right to live free of sexual violence.

We believe that everyone has a role and a responsibility in this work.

We do not do this work in isolation. We believe in the importance of collaborations and alliance building.

Our work is driven by survivors' voices. Survivors and all those affected by sexual violence deserve compassionate services, dignity, privacy, and respect.

We believe that this work is based in a feminist perspective that sexual violence is rooted in oppressive power relations.

We believe that sexual violence is any unwanted sexual contact (verbal and/or physical), including rape, incest, child sexual assault, ritual abuse, acquaintance rape/assault, intimate partner or marital rape, sexual harassment, exposure, and voyeurism. Sexual violence refers to acts of violence where sex is used as the weapon.

We believe that diversity and safe, accessible services are fundamental to social change.

We believe in the power of advocacy, education, prevention, and driving public policy as agents of social change.

2010 Highlights

OUR COMMITMENT TO TRAINING

Training Institute

159 people attended WCASA's popular Training Institute Uniting Together to Create Change: Considerations of Identity in Shaping the Sexual Assault Prevention Movement. Over 3 plenary sessions and 29 breakout sessions participants learned new information and innovative skills about the anti-sexual violence movement to make changes in their

"This was a great conference. I really enjoyed getting to know others who are just as passionate as I am about these topics."

communities. Topics included the Why Trauma Matters and What You Can Do; How Systems and Services Impact the Lives of Sexual Assault Survivors; Teen Pregnancy and Sexual Violence; Identifying (and Disconnecting) the "isms": Confronting Racism, Stopping Rape; Understanding our Diversity/Sexual Assault Victim Advocacy in the Latino Community; Building Capacity Around Dating/Sexual

Violence Prevention Education for Youth; Putting a Stop to Human Trafficking in Your Community; and This is Water: The Inconvenient Truth About Rape Culture. Participants learned strategies to prevent sexual assault; how to communicate more effectively throughout the intervention process; the connection between anti oppression work and ending sexual assault; and how to work with multidisciplinary teams to build productive relationships to end sexual violence.

Legal Training

50 advocates attended this year's Legal Training. This training featured multi-disciplinary presenters, including prosecution, law enforcement and advocacy. The case study format allowed attendees to hear how the criminal justice system and advocacy responds to cases from start to finish. This interactive training also featured conversations regarding how the criminal justice system could respond differently in the future and how effective collaboration can improve response for all survivors of sexual assault.

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Law Enforcement Training Project

As a pacesetter in enhancing the quality of interactions with individuals who have been sexually assaulted, WCASA's multidisciplinary team provided over 34 training days to 1112 law enforcement officers, advocates, district attorneys, and other members of the criminal justice system. Trainers covered sexual assault dynamics, victim reactions, SART, and sensitive crime investigation techniques and strategies.

Northern Training

Each year our trainings reach the far north in a collaborative effort with the Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence and American Indians Against Abuse. In 2010, 44 advocates from sexual violence and domestic violence programs came together to learn about Culture, Knowledge and Collaboration.

Sexual Assault Victim Advocacy Schools (SAVAS)

More than 75 novice and experienced sexual assault advocates shared their skills and built their knowledge at one of our two bi-annual, week-long advocacy schools. WCASA staff and other experts offered guidance on such vital top-

“The workshops were excellent and extremely informative; I gained a lot of valuable knowledge and resources.”

ics as the dynamics of sexual violence, its impact on victims, supporting the healing process, facilitating support groups; conducting effective awareness and outreach; working with law enforcement; and engaging communities to work for change.

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Training

More than 64 registered nurses attended WCASA's two five-

day training seminars that addressed adult and adolescent survivors.¹⁷ participants attended WCASA's five-day pediatric/advanced seminar, which provided training on interviewing children, mandatory reporting, pediatric physical findings related to trauma, strangulation and responding to domestic violence within sexual assault cases.

“Really great information in the morning and afternoon sessions! Facilitators were both enthusiastic and knowledgeable. We were provided with very helpful information to bring back to my agency.”

PARTNERSHIPS & CAPACITY-BUILDING

Prevention-Education Grants for Youth & Underserved Populations

WCASA awarded nearly \$200,000 to 16 sexual-assault service providers (SASPs) to provide educational seminars to youth and those who interact with youth in Wisconsin communities. Projects emphasized developing young leaders and changing beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors that promote sexual violence.

Community partnerships around sexual assault and people with disabilities

In collaboration with Disability Rights Wisconsin and WCADV, WCASA has continued to provide intensive work with two communities, Ashland/Bayfield and Brown County, to improve their services to survivors with disabilities. In addition, as part of the new Statewide Technical Assistance Model, the Statewide Developmental Disabilities Specialist position was created to provide expertise to sexual assault providers and the judicial system around the state to improve their response to survivors of sexual assault who are developmentally disabled.

Rural sexual assault program development

WCASA continued its collaboration with WCADV through the Rural Grant in 2010. WCASA hired a full-time Rural Technical Assistance Coordinator to support these efforts. Specifically, WCASA's work was focused on supporting and enhancing sexual assault services within dual programs. Discussions and trainings on the topic of "duality" were a focus this year: how quality sexual assault services can be developed and supported within a program providing both domestic and sexual violence services. WCASA provided support to programs through on and off site technical assistance and training. Additional training was offered to programs through the WCASA Regional Meetings and SAVAS, as well as WCADV Networking Days. The work of

the statewide LGBT Committee of WCADV/WCASA continued this year through quarterly meetings and supported five trainings on the topic of "Providing Inclusive Services: Working with LGBT Survivors of DV /SA". Finally, WCASA participated with WCADV in the Peer Review Project (PRP) in four communities. The PRP provides Directors the opportunity to visit other programs to learn about service provision and receive supportive, constructive feedback about their programs.

Prevention

In 2010, WCASA took a step forward in its prevention efforts by forming a Prevention Team tasked with managing the Rape Prevention Education (RPE) grant. RPE is a national program, part of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Injury Prevention & Control Center via the Wisconsin Department of Health Services. In a grant year which crossed November 2009 through October 2010, the Prevention Team led the way on RPE objectives encompassing tasks from the evaluation of six sub-grantees' prevention programming, to an initial survey of campuses and service providers around CCR/SART work. Staff networked with the Milwaukee Fatherhood Initiative in Milwaukee, and tribal communities in the north and north-west; attended the annual National Sexual Assault Conference (NSAC) in Los Angeles (2010 theme: "Building the World We Want to Live In"); developed a Strategic Training Plan and Strategic Media Plan; began development of an awareness raising campaign:

"Rise to the Challenge", the first phase of which was rolled out as the theme for Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Survivors & Allies Task Force

WCASA reached out into communities to engage survivors and allies to assist in developing direction for survivors and allies of sexual assault. The following meetings were held to gather recommendations from survivors and allies. July 24th in Wausau with 8 participants; July 29th in Madison with 15 attendees; August 25th in Milwaukee with 45 attendees. The goal is to move toward creating an action group that is supportive of engaging survivors and their allies in the work. To best serve the survivors of the state, we passionately believe we need to reach out to them.

"The goal is to empower sexual abuse survivors to take back control and rebuild lives"

Dismantling Racism

The first step was taken in the dismantling racism process at WCASA by contracting with the Racial Equity Institute for anti-racist organizational development consultation and training. The following trainings took place: February 18th and 19th with 43 attendees; March 25th & 26th with 36 attendees and July 16th & 17th with WCASA board members and staff. The commitment to this task is a difficult & challenging journey that WCASA and its Board of Directors are committed to. There are barriers for victims of color in

receiving adequate, culturally competent services and we are working to tear down institutional racism to better serve all victims. With our commitment to the dismantling racism process, we want to eventually be in a position to lead by example.

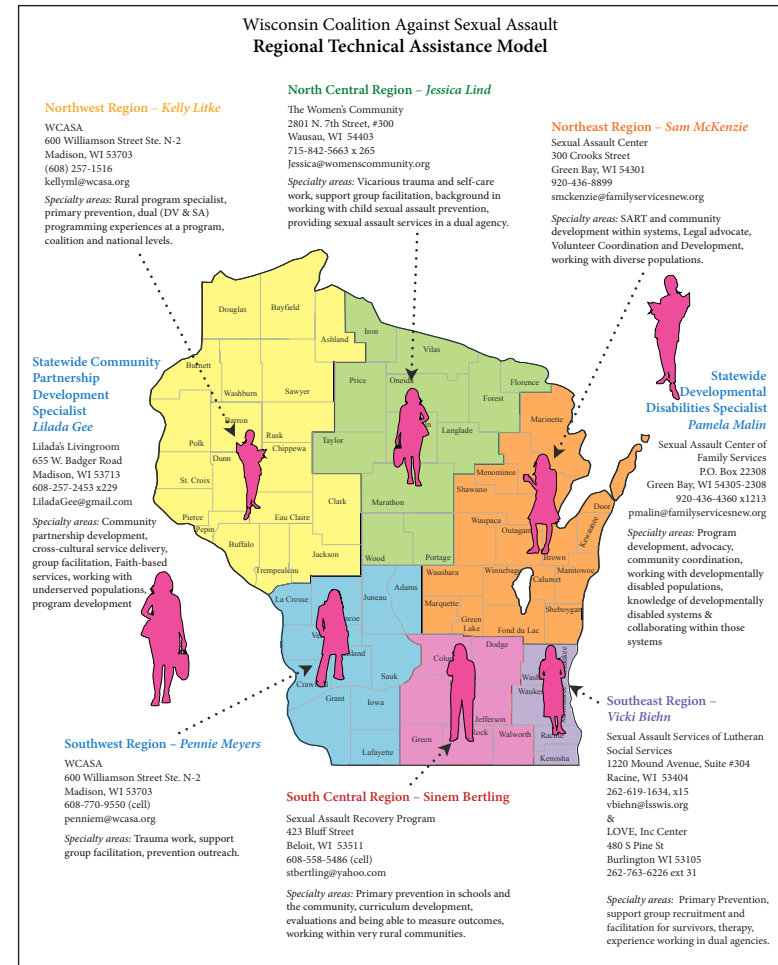
Promoting Leadership among Women of Color

Women of Color Pre-Intensive/Training Institute (30 attendees) looked at setting initiatives for Women of Color. Several of the initiatives are: make changes so more Women of Color can serve on the Board of Directors of WCASA; community-readiness interviews to find out if communities are ready to better serve communities of color, looking at resources and barriers; increasing leadership skills of Women of Color in their daily practices, through assessments, training and the provision of new opportunities for Women of Color to use these leadership skills; expanding the Women of Color Network by inviting other disciplines (police officers, teachers, social workers) that indirectly work with sexual assault service providers and survivors to join the network, including Wise Women Gathering. Also, Bev Stow from Wise Women Gathering conducted Technology of Participation Training, which involves consensus building, focusing conversations and action planning.

SUPPORT & RESOURCES

Statewide Technical Assistance Model

The development of a new model to enhance the level of services to victims of sexual assault was created and implemented in 2010. This comprehensive statewide technical assistance model for sexual assault service providers will create a conduit of networking and relationship building that will facilitate the exchange of information and expertise in the area of service delivery, regional and statewide resources, and the development of specialized support to underserved and unserved communities. WCASA hired the Director of Program Development and six Regional Technical Assistance Specialists to cover the state. Hired in October 2010, the Regional TA Specialists visited sexual assault service providers in all regions of the state covering 75% of sexual assault service providers. In addition, pre-tests were administered to all 43 sexual assault service providers to provide a baseline in regard to program development, two regional meetings were held, and 134 technical assistance contacts were made in 3 months. Ongoing work is occurring with tribal programs in Wisconsin including informal sexual assault service providers. In development are trainings for informal sexual assault providers and a training manual for volunteers.



Technical Assistance

In addition to the Technical Assistance Specialists, WCASA staff responded to over 1,000 technical assistance requests and 261 meetings to assist service providers, law enforcement officers, and others seeking information on sexual-assault issues.

E-Newsletter and Web Site

WCASA continues to receive a positive response to the electronic newsletters we send out to WCASA's membership each week. WCASA's weekly email update covers timely topics such as funding opportunities, upcoming trainings and events, employment opportunities, new resources, and sexual assault in the news. WCASA continues to update the website to broaden its utility and to make it fully accessible to people who use assistive technologies.

Sexual Assault Awareness Month Materials

The theme of WCASA's Sexual Assault Awareness Month was "Rise to the Challenge." The goal of SAAM is to raise public awareness about sexual violence and to educate communities and individuals on how to prevent sexual violence. WCASA, in league with state-wide service providers, community partners, and allies. "Rise to the Challenge" was a call to action for all the people of Wisconsin to get involved in ending sexual assault. The campaign goal was to illuminate the relationship between our own day-to-day interactions and the larger cultural climate; to understand the connection between cultural attitudes and the direct experiences of victims of sexual assault. The climate that we collectively create around us every day can continue to be one of rape culture – where misogyny, racism, homophobia, and sexist attitudes persist; or it can be transformed into one which supports equality, safety, communication, and embodies a world without violence. It's up to all of us to rise to the challenge every

day to bring this new world into being. Resource packets and posters were distributed free of charge to WCASA's member agencies as well as to health departments throughout the state.

Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Project

In 2010, WCASA in partnership with the Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance put together a work group charged with developing a best practice response to sexual abuse in detention for inclusion in the Wisconsin Statewide Adult Sexual Assault Response Team Protocol. The work group members together with survivors of sexual abuse in detention began the process of writing a model protocol which will be unveiled at the Statewide SART Conference in 2011. In 2010, the number of SARTs in Wisconsin grew from 21 in 2009 to 32 at the end of 2010. The Wisconsin Adult Sexual Assault Response Team Protocol has received national attention as a model protocol for teams in responding to sexual assault. The SART Coordinator also held 8 quarterly community meetings in 2010. These community meetings allow for SARTs from across the state to gather for training and networking.

ENACTING LEGISLATIVE CHANGE

The 2009-2010 legislative sessions were very successful for WCASA. Building on the passage of the Safe Housing Act in the previous legislative session, further improvements in the area of victim access to housing were obtained. The Lock Out Abusers Act enhances survivors safety by allowing requiring landlords to change the locks upon request. Survivors must prove their victim status via the same documentation required under the Safe Housing Act, including certified copies of injunctions and criminal complaints. Additionally, the Victim Fair Housing Act is a significant piece of anti-discrimination legislation in that it bars discriminatory housing practices based on an individual's status as a survivor of sexual assault.

WCASA was also successful in enhancing victim privacy by lobbying for and securing passage of the Victim Privacy Act. The Victim Privacy Act creates a civil rape shield, thus ensuring that this type of evidence is now barred, with narrow exception, from introduction in civil cases just as it is in criminal prosecutions. Additionally, this legislation prohibits a court from requiring a victim to submit to a mental examination as a way of assessing her credibility and generally prohibits a defense attorney from requiring a victim to submit to pre-trial interviews/depositions. Finally, in the area of prevention, the Healthy Youth Act outlines the topics that must be included when school districts offer human growth development programming. The topics that must

be addressed include: an emphasis on healthy relationships, the impact of the media and one's peers on behaviors related to sexuality, and the skills needed to refrain from making inappropriate physical, verbal, and sexual advances as well as how to recognize, rebuff and report unwanted behaviors.

2010 Staff & Board

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2010 WCASA STAFF

Beth Ballo
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Tiffany Lodholz
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Stephen Montagna
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2010 WCASA BOARD

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Keeley Crowley
Deb Donovan
Dawn Helmrich
Gen Krahn-Reed
Jo Lettner
Pennie Meyers
Chrissy Preston
LeeAnn Raab
Kimberly Ruef
Teri Tainter

2010 SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICE PROVIDERS

Advocates of Ozaukee
Ozaukee and Surrounding Counties

Association For the Prevention of Family Violence
Walworth

ASTOP, Inc.
Fond du Lac and Surrounding Counties

AVAIL, Inc.
Langlade and Marathon, Lincoln, Oneida, Menomonee, Shawano upon request

Bolton Refuge House, Inc.
Eau Claire, Jackson, Buffalo

Brighter Tomorrows
Monroe

CAP Services, Inc.
Portage, Waupaca, Waushara

CASDA
Douglas

Community Referral Agency
Burnett, Polk

Family Advocates–Sexual Assault Services
Grant, Iowa, Lafayette

Family Center, Inc.
Wood

Family Support Center
Chippewa, Eau Claire

Franciscan Skemp Healthcare–Safe Path
La Crosse and Surrounding Counties

Friends of Abused Families
Washington

Gundersen Lutheran Medical Center, Inc.
Crawford, La Crosse, Monroe, Trempealeau

HAVEN, Inc.
Lincoln

Holy Family Memorial's Sexual Assault Resource Center
Manitowoc

Hope House
Columbia, Sauk, Marquette, Juneau, Adams

LCO Oakwood Haven
Sawyer

New Day Shelter
Ashland, Bayfield

Passages
Crawford, Juneau, Richland, Vernon, Grant, Sauk and Iowa

Pathfinders
Milwaukee

People Against a Violent Environment
Dodge, Jefferson

People Against Domestic & Sexual Abuse
Jefferson

Rape Crisis Center
Dane

REACH Counseling Services
Winnebago

Safe Harbor of Sheboygan County, Inc.
Sheboygan

Safe Haven
Shawano

Sexual Assault Center
Brown, Door, Oconto, Marinette

Sexual Assault Crisis Center–Fox Cities
Calumet, Outagamie

Sexual Assault Recovery Program
Rock, Green

Sexual Assault Services of LSS
Racine

Sexual Assault Treatment Center
Milwaukee

Stepping Stones, Inc.
Taylor

The Bridge to Hope
Dunn, Pepin

The Healing Center
Milwaukee

The Women's Center
Waukesha and surrounding Counties

The Women's Community
Marathon

Time-Out Family Abuse Shelter
Rusk, Washburn, Price

Tri-County Council on DV & SA
Forest, Oneida, Vilas

Turningpoint for Victims of DV & SV
Pierce, St.Croix

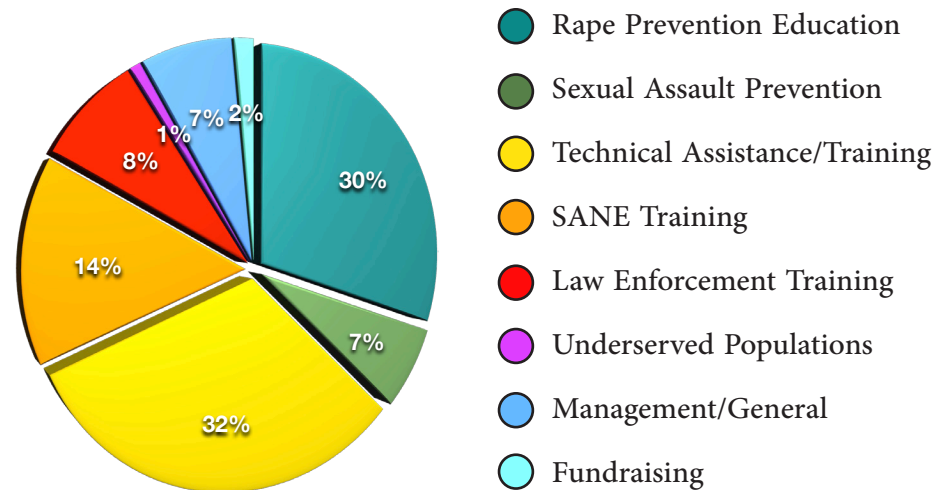
Violence Intervention Project
Kewaunee

Women & Children's Horizons
Kenosha

2010 Finances

Financial Statement

Prevention Block Grant	
Rape Prevention Education	\$581,752
Sexual Assault Prevention	\$131,346
Technical Assistance/Training	\$613,722
SANE Training	\$269,858
Law Enforcement Training	\$146,835
Under-served Populations	\$16,306
Total Program Services	\$1,759,819
Management/General	\$133,749
Fundraising	\$30,231
Totals	\$1,923,799



WCASA would like to acknowledge major funders who worked with us in 2010 toward ending sexual violence: the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services Division of Public Health, the State of Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance, the State of Wisconsin Department of Justice, Office of Crime Victim Services, and the United States Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women.

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