



WISCONSIN COALITION AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT
INTERVENE • ADVOCATE • EDUCATE

ANNUAL REPORT – 2012

“It starts when you say We,
and you know who you mean, and each
day you mean one more.”

— Marge Piercy

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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.

2012 Highlights

OUR COMMITMENT TO TRAINING

Legal Training

WCASA conducted several Legal Trainings in 2012 covering a wide variety of topics delivered to a wide variety of audiences. For the first time, the Clerk of Courts and their staff received sexual assault training. These trainings covered rape myths, sexual assault laws and prevention information. 198 Clerks and staff were trained in 2012.

“Good use of visual presentation. Information was presented in an interesting way... speakers were well versed and compassionate.”

“Very informative. Made me think about it from another angle.”

WCASA, in conjunction with the Office of Justice Assistance, WCADV, and DOJ held an Expert Witness Mock Trial Training. This was the first training of its kind since Wisconsin significantly changed its law relating to expert

witness testimony in 2011. The audience consisted of sexual assault and domestic violence advocates as well as Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE).

For the second year in a row, WCASA provided a legal training sexual assault advocates in the National Guard. This legal training focused on the civilian legal system and provided an overview of Wisconsin’s sexual assault laws.

Law Enforcement Training Project

WCASA’s multidisciplinary collaboration with the Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance (OJA) represents a ten year evolution of shifting the conversation toward a “Victim Centered and Offender Focused” approach. Enhancing the quality of interactions with individuals who have been sexually assaulted, training outreach covered a variety of components, including: victim dynamics, offender behaviors, stalking, strangulation, SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner), and how to build stronger cases. Over 700 law enforcement officers, advocates, district attorneys, and other members of the criminal justice system were reached in trainings across 9 counties and four conferences, including Wisconsin Technical College System, Army National Guard, and the End Violence Against Women International (EVAWI) Conference.

*“I really appreciated the District Attorney and others from the community being part of the training
– 15 year Police Officer*

Northern Training

Each year our training reaches the far north in a collaborative effort with the Wisconsin Coalition Against Domestic Violence (WCADV) and American Indians Against Abuse (AIAA). In 2012, 38 advocates from sexual violence and domestic violence programs came together at the Potawatomi Carter Casino Hotel. Sessions were led by the Minnesota Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition, and Wise Women Gathering Place on topics such as "The Prostitution and Trafficking of Native Women" and "Forging Connections".

Sexual Assault Victim Advocacy Schools (SAVAS)

More than 40 novice and experienced sexual assault advocates from 27 agencies shared their skills and built their

"We GREATLY appreciate all of the info that you guys gave us!! It is going to greatly help! Thanks so much!"

knowledge at one of our two biannual advocacy schools, held at the Metropolis Hotel in Eau Claire, WI. WCASA staff and other experts offered guidance on such vital topics 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.

In addition, this year marked our first foray into digital content delivery; to begin reducing costs, session materials were distributed digitally via Dropbox, and two sessions were facilitated virtually, with staff in Arizona and Madison.

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Training

More than 164 registered nurses attended one of WCASA's four five-day training seminars that addressed adult and adolescent survivors, and one that addressed pediatric survivors. Together, these seminars provided medical personnel with training on interviewing children, mandatory reporting, pediatric physical findings related to trauma, strangulation and responding to domestic violence within sexual assault cases.

PARTNERSHIPS & OUTREACH

Prevention

In 2012, WCASA continued work implementing Forward Wisconsin: A Plan for the Prevention of Sexual Violence. The Prevention Team managed the Rape Prevention Education (RPE) grant, a national program out of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Injury Prevention & Control Center in partnership with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services. In a grant year which

crossed November 2011 through October 2012, the Prevention Team led the way on initiatives in five (of six) focus areas of the prevention plan, including:

FOCUS AREA	HIGHLIGHTS
<i>Data</i>	<i>The development of a Burden of Sexual Violence Report in Wisconsin.</i>
<i>Prevention Strategies</i>	<i>Co-hosted with WCADV a series of calls and webinars for prevention educators. Developed the WCASA website to include best practices in prevention.</i>
<i>Public Policy</i>	<i>Hosted three policy webinars with WCASA lobbyist John Keckhaver.</i>
<i>Prevention Infrastructure</i>	<i>Supported the State SV Prevention Plan Team, as well as other statewide prevention committees.</i>
<i>Communications</i>	<i>Developed a Social Media Guide, as well as a Media Toolkit for both providers and the media.</i>

Survivors & Allies Task Force

In 2012 WCASA and our community partners continued and expanded the great work begun last year with the Survivors & Allies Task Force (SATF). Two more meetings were held: April 28th at Bethel Church in Madison, and October 20th at UMOG Headquarters in Milwaukee. In all, 128 people participated in the meetings. In addition, a listserv which drew 81 members was started in July, and a Facebook page which drew 43 members was launched this year.

LGBTQ Committee of WCASA/WCADV

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The work of the statewide LGBTQ Committee of WCASA/WCADV continued under the Sexual Assault Prevention funding from the Department of Health Services this year, with the loss of the Rural Grant. Quarterly meetings were hosted with participants coming together from across the state to develop priorities for services specific to the LGBTQ community. Trainings on the topic of “Providing Inclusive Services: Working with LGBTQ Survivors of DV /SA” were also held.



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. In 2012, 39 meetings were held across the six service regions, and across the state as part of the Women of Color and Developmental Disabilities Specialists. In all, 398 people participated in regional meetings, covering a variety of topics such as: Accessibility, Poverty, Social Media, Working with Volunteers, Trauma Informed Care, How to Serve Women of Color, Working with Men, and Primary Prevention.

Social Media Presence

WCASA continued to reach out to membership and the community at large through a variety of communications pathways. Our semi-monthly electronic newsletter was downloaded more than 2,000 times after it was redesigned as a PDF document in July. WCASA's email update covers timely topics such as funding opportunities, upcoming trainings and events, employment opportunities, new resources, and information on policy initiatives. WCASA continues

to update the website and broaden its utility. Some 36,000 people visited the home page during the year as their first step to accessing other resources. For the second year in a row, the Prosecutor's Sexual Assault Reference Book topped the list of most downloaded resources at 3,700, followed by our 2012 Training and Event Calendar, SART Protocol, and Info Sheet on working with the LGBTQ community. Our Facebook page saw an increase from 215 to 734 "Likes", and over 1,000 participated in conversations by liking posts, sharing, or commenting. WCASA also continues to explore increasing content on our blog and the use of Twitter, and maintaining listservs for the topics of Prevention, Legal Services, Advocacy, SATF (Survivors & Allies Task Force) and LGBTQ.

Sexual Assault Awareness Month

April, as always, was Sexual Assault Awareness Month, the goal of which is to raise public awareness about sexual violence and to educate communities and individuals on how to prevent sexual violence. In 2012, WCASA in addition to championing events across the state, stepped up locally and hosted four major events. On April 25th, we hosted a modest event to observe the 2nd State observance of Denim Day; in addition, we joined with the WI Attorney General, J.B. Van Hollen, bringing a burst of blue denim to the Capitol Rotunda. A few days later, on April 27th, we hosted the SATF (Survivors & Allies Task Force) meeting, our annual Voices of Courage Awards, and our first ever "Wrap Around the Capitol". Over 100 people joined hands, and linked denim strips to literally encircle the Capitol building in a visible demonstration of support for survivors of sexual violence.

ENACTING LEGISLATIVE CHANGE

2012 saw some positive developments after a challenging 2011. WCASA continued its effort to restore and stabilize funding for the Sexual Assault Victim Services (SAVS) grant program. The audit of the surcharge which funds the SAVS program was released and it highlighted to need for a simpler funding mechanism for sexual assault services, something WCASA has been advocating for some time. In August, the Department of Justice, which administers the SAVS program, released their budget request for the next biennium. The DOJ budget request proposed restoring SAVS to 2011 levels (\$2 million per year) and greatly simplifies the funding structure which would help stabilize funding for this program. These developments put WCASA in good shape for our budget advocacy in 2013, where we hope to increase and stabilize funding for SAVS in the next state budget.

2012 Staff & Board

2012 WCASA STAFF

Sinem Bertling
Kathleen Brandenburg
Jacqueline Callari-Robinson
Suzie Everett
Laura Ewing
Peter Fiala
CJ Figgins-Hunter
Nina Gehan
Ian Henderson
Sheila Kirschbaum
Pennie Meyers
Kelly Moe Litke
Stephen Montagna

2012 WCASA BOARD

Susan Aasen
Alice Belcher
Annie Bergsbaken
Maryann Clesceri
Agnes DuBois
Dawn Helmrich
Lynn Johnson
Gen Krahn-Reed
Jo Lettner
Shelby Mitchell
Lisa M. Penterman
Kris Porter
Mariana Rodriguez
Kim Ruef
Tami Schlickman
Faye Schouten
Chad A. Thompson
Judy Woller

2012 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

Forest Co. Potawatomi Domestic Violence Shelter
Forest

Friends of Abused Families
Washington

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

HAVEN, Inc.
Lincoln

Hope House
Columbia, Sauk, Marquette, Juneau, Adams

LCO Oakwood Haven
Sawyer

Manitowoc Co. Domestic Violence Center
Manitowoc

Mayo Clinic Health System
La Crosse and surrounding counties

New Day Shelter
Ashland, Bayfield

New Horizons Shelter and Outreach Centers
Trempealeau

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

Pathfinders
Milwaukee

People Against a Violent Environment
Dodge, Jefferson

People Against Domestic & Sexual Abuse
Jefferson

Personal Development Center, Inc.
Clark

Project RESPECT
Dane

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, Lafayette

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

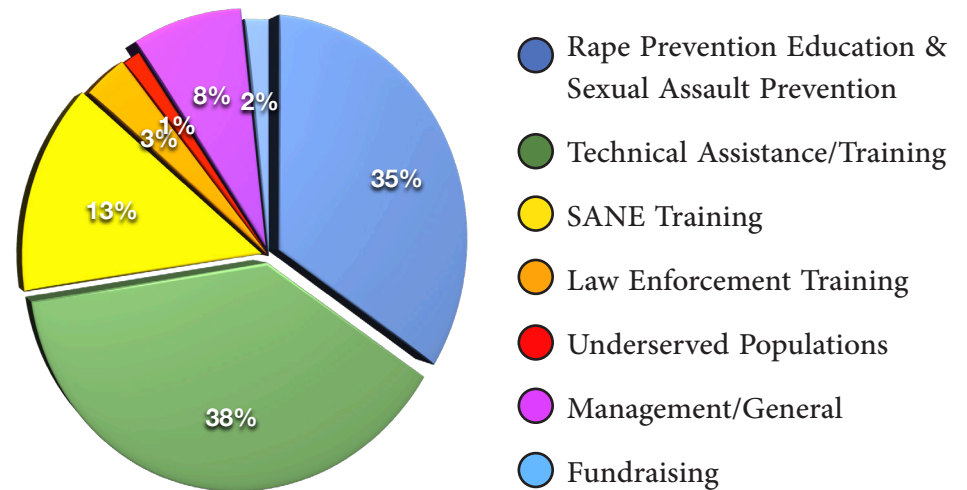
Violence Intervention Project
Kewaunee

Women & Children's Horizons
Kenosha

2011 Finances

Financial Statement

Prevention Education	\$589,423
Technical Assistance/Training	\$652,413
SANE Training	\$222,428
Law Enforcement Training	\$50,538
Disability Rights WI	\$20,447
Total Program Services	\$1,535,249
Management/General	\$131,692
Fundraising	\$30,356
Totals	\$1,697,297



WCASA would like to acknowledge major funders who worked with us in 2011 toward ending sexual violence: the State of Wisconsin Division of Public Health of the Department of Health and Family Services, 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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