



2023

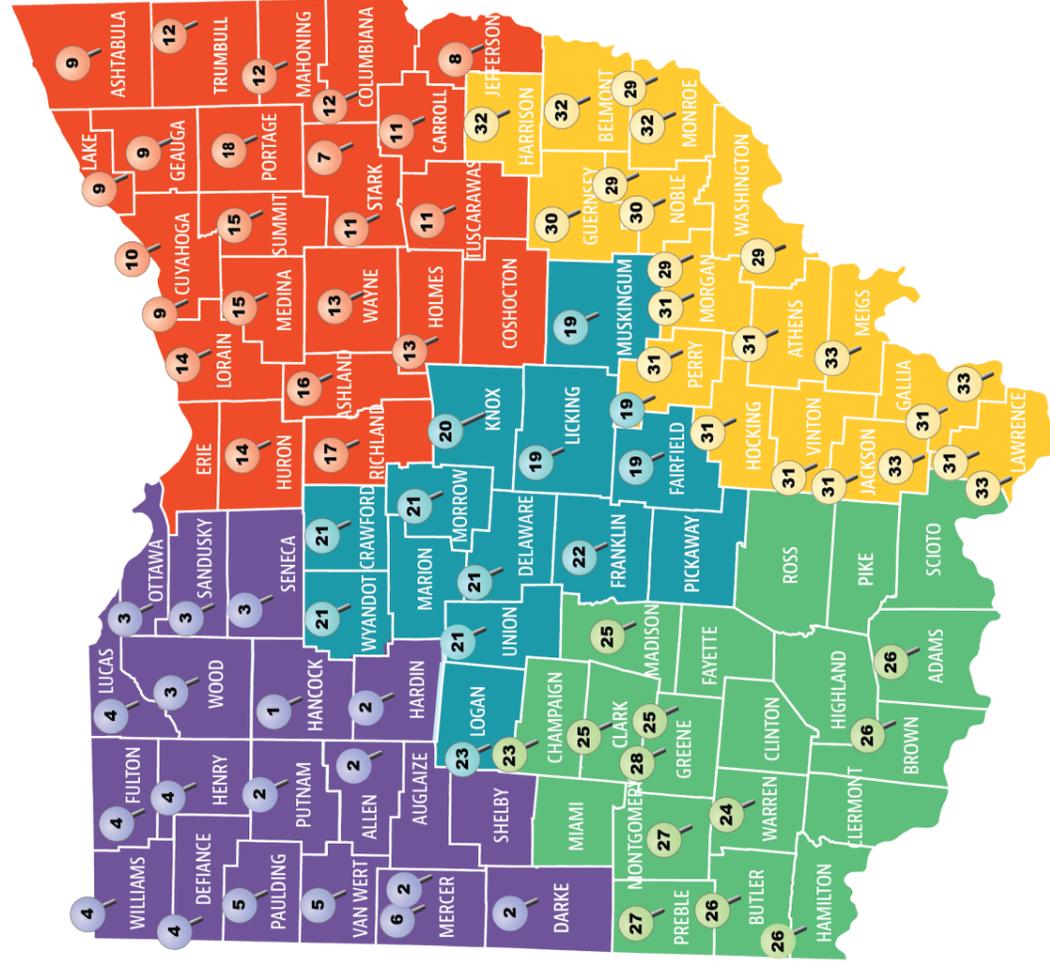
ANNUAL
REPORT

Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence

RAPE CRISIS CENTERS IN OHIO

- 1 Open Arms Domestic Violence & Rape Crisis Services
- 2 Crime Victim Services
- 3 The Cocoon
- 4 YWCA Rape Crisis Center of Northwest Ohio
- 5 YWCA Rape Crisis Center of Van Wert County
- 6 Family Crisis Network of Our Home

- 7 Alliance Rape Crisis Program
- 8 ALIVE Sexual Assault Services
- 9 Cleveland Rape Crisis Center
- 10 Brenda Glass Trauma Center
- 11 COMPASS (Sexual Assault Education, Prevention & Support)
- 12 Rape Crisis Counseling Center of Compass Family & Community Service
- 13 OneEighty
- 14 The Nord Center's Sexual Assault Services
- 15 Rape Crisis Center of Medina & Summit Counties
- 16 Rape Crisis and Domestic Violence Safe Haven
- 17 The Sexual Assault Program of The Domestic Violence Shelter Inc.
- 18 Townhall II



- 19 Family Health Services of East Central Ohio
- 20 New Directions
- 21 Sexual Assault & Victim Services at HelpLine
- 22 Sexual Assault Response Network of Central Ohio (SARNCO)
- 23 TCN Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Crisis Center
- 24 SAFE on Main
- 25 Project Woman
- 26 Women Helping Women
- 27 YWCA Dayton Sexual Assault Program
- 28 Family Violence Prevention Center
- 29 Eve, Inc.
- 30 Haven of Hope
- 31 Survivor Advocacy Outreach Program
- 32 Tri-County Help Center Rape Crisis Program
- 33 Square One

THERE IS POWER & STRENGTH IN THE COLLECTIVE

- 04 Letters from Leadership
- 06 Mission & Objectives
- 07 Volunteers & Interns
- 08 Staff & Board
- 10 Anti-Oppression Lens
- 11 Technical Assistance & COVID-19 Response
- 12 Coalition Building
- 14 Training & Events
- 16 Annual Conference
- 18 Advocacy Services & Engagement with Survivors
- 20 Public Policy & Advocacy Day
- 22 OAESV Legal Services
- 23 New Projects & Awards
- 24 Products & Resources
- 25 Public Awareness
- 26 Financial Report

FROM OUR PRESIDENT & CEO

DEAR ANTI-VIOLENCE COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE IN OHIO,

As we stand on the threshold of 2024, we find ourselves filled with gratitude for each and every one of you. Your dedication, resilience, and unwavering commitment to ending sexual violence have been a beacon of hope and inspiration throughout the past year.

Reflecting on the transformative changes to our funding structure and the envisioning process that followed the post-pandemic landscape of 2023, we are reminded that change is the only constant. Despite the challenges and growing pains we encountered, it was undeniably a year of pivotal successes, particularly in the implementation of our transitional housing project.

Our journey through 2023, as outlined in the Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence's Annual Report, speaks volumes of our collective achievements. Despite the obstacles, our remarkable staff and volunteers fearlessly advocated for survivors, ensuring access to essential services and tirelessly working towards prevention and advocacy initiatives. To our partners, volunteers, and donors, we extend our heartfelt gratitude for your unwavering support.

As we embrace the dawn of 2024, let us take a moment to recognize the invaluable contributions each of you has made to this cause. Our priorities for the coming year are clear: to strengthen and elevate OAESV by providing comprehensive training, technical assistance, advocacy, prevention measures, housing solutions, legal services, and stop-gap services, particularly in rural areas lacking local rape crisis centers. We are committed to engaging men, fostering a stronger community response, and ensuring access to forensic services, always through a survivor-centered lens that addresses the true needs of survivors in every corner of Ohio.

In our collective unity lies immense power and strength. Let us be reminded that each day presents an opportunity to catalyze a revolution toward a future free from sexual violence. Together, we can effect profound change and bring hope to countless lives.

Thank you for your staunch dedication, and let us march forward into 2024 with renewed determination and resolve.

With gratitude and solidarity,



Rosa Beltré
President & CEO



FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT

DEAR OAESV STAKEHOLDERS,

As we reflect on 2023 and look forward to the opportunities ahead in the coming year, I am honored to present to you the annual report of the Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence.

The year 2023 was marked by significant achievements and milestones for our organization. We continued to expand our reach and impact across the state, providing crucial support and resources to survivors of sexual violence, advocating for policy changes, and fostering collaboration among various stakeholders. Through our dedicated efforts, we have made strides in working towards a future where Ohio is free of sexual violence.

Our ongoing strategic planning process for 2024-2027 has been instrumental in guiding our work and ensuring that we remain responsive to the evolving needs of survivors and communities. By engaging in thoughtful reflection and dialogue, we continue to identify key priorities and strategies to advance our mission effectively. In the coming year, we are committed to building upon our storied foundation and implementing innovative approaches to address the root causes of sexual violence and promote healing and prevention.

As we embark on this journey, we are mindful of the importance of serving all of our stakeholders with excellence and integrity. Whether you are a survivor seeking support, a member program collaborating with us on initiatives, or a donor contributing to our cause, your involvement is essential to our collective efforts to end sexual violence. We are deeply grateful for your trust and support, and we are dedicated to upholding the highest standards of accountability and transparency in all aspects of our work.

Looking ahead to the upcoming year, we are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead and the potential for even greater impact. We will continue to leverage our strengths and resources to advocate for systemic change, empower survivors, and foster a culture of consent and respect. Together, we can create a safer future for all.

In closing, I want to express my heartfelt appreciation to our dedicated staff, board of directors, member programs, volunteers, and community partners for their unwavering commitment to our mission. It is through your passion and dedication that we can make a difference in the lives of survivors and communities across Ohio.

Thank you for your continued support,



Denique "Neeky" Dennis-Young
President, Board of Directors



OAESV



VOLUNTEERS & INTERNS ARE OUR GREATEST ASSETS

OAESV volunteers are a force for good. With the dedication, passion, time, and talents of volunteers across the state of Ohio, we are able to positively impact the anti-sexual violence movement in significant and lasting ways.

We have a variety of on-location and remote opportunities throughout the year for folks to share their time and talents with us.

In 2023, we restructured our internship program to provide real-world experience for those passionate about our mission.

A special thank you to:

Caitlin Seiner, Eren Crebs, Jordan Okoye, Pontea Afzalirad, Emily Wagner, Rachael Schilling, Grace Shults, Rachel Peterson, Antony Lopez, Erika Kura, Arabella Zambito

OAESV helped me build skills in public policy research and social media creation. As someone who wants to work in health policy, interning for OAESV was a flexible and wonderful learning experience.

**Grace Shults,
Public Policy intern**



I was able to work on highly impactful and innovative projects that combined the mission of OAESV with my interests, in a dedicated and supportive work environment. I felt there was no shortage of opportunity for me.

**Jordan Okoye,
Prevention & Public Health intern**



OUR MISSION

As Ohio's statewide coalition, OAESV uses **an anti-oppression lens** to advocate for **comprehensive responses and rape crisis services** for survivors and to **empower communities to prevent sexual violence.**

OUR OBJECTIVES

- End isolation of survivors and agencies working on their behalf
- Improve services and responses to survivors and all those impacted by sexual violence
- Increase public awareness about sexual violence
- Inform and shape public policy
- End sexual violence

570

volunteer & intern hours

MEET THE 2023 TEAM



She/Her

LANA BAIRD
Director of Finance



She/Her/Ella

ROSA BELTRÉ
President & Chief Executive Officer



She/Her

CAITLYN BENZO
LAV Attorney



She/Her

CAITLIN BURKE
Senior Director of Prevention & Impact



She/Her

JESS CARRICK
LAV Administrator



They/Them/She/Her

JENN EIDEMILLER
Grants, Resources, & Communications Manager



She/Her/They/Them

SARAH FERRATO
Manager of Sexual Violence Prevention & Public Health Initiatives



They/Them

ELLE FULLENKAMP
Manager of Training & Technical Assistance



She/Her

EMILY GEMAR
Director of Public Policy



She/Her

BECCA GETSON
Director of Advocacy & Legal Services



She/Her

LAURIE HAMAME
Resource & Communications Coordinator



He/Him

JAYVON HOWARD
Manager of Engaging Men Initiatives



She/Her

SHANDRA INGRAM
Vice President of Operations



She/Her

NICOLE KASS COLVIN
Director of Coordinated Community Responses



She/Her

NATASHA LARSON
Director of Training & Member Engagement



She/Her

SHELBY LIEBER
Survivor Coordinator



She/Her/Ella

YASMIN PONCE
Coalition Services Administrator



She/Her

TAMMY ROBERTSON
Statewide Director of Forensic Nursing



She/Her

STEPHANIE B. SCALISE
Managing LAV Attorney



She/Her

TAYLR UCKER-LAUDERMAN
Chief Engagement Officer

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our board members are dedicated volunteers who have the responsibility of directing the organization's financial development, public policy, and fiscal oversight, which helps to ensure the continued success of OAESV.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR STEWARDSHIP & CONTRIBUTIONS TO OAESV!

DENIQUE "NEEKY" DENNIS-YOUNG
She/Her | President

JENNIFER KARPUS-ROMAIN
She/Her | Vice President

ISAAC BÂEZ, M.P.H., C.D.E.
He/Him | Secretary

JEN SEIFERT, PHD
She/Her | Treasurer

LEE ANN SCHWOPE
She/Her | Fundraising Committee Chair

LYSETTE ROMAN, JD
She/Her | Board Recruitment & Development Chair

JAMAHAL C. BOYD
He/Him | Board Member

ASHLEY KLINE, LPCC-S
She/Her | Board Member

JAMIE SMALL, PHD
She/Her | Board Member

MAYOR SHARETTA T. SMITH
She/Her | Board Member

STAFF GROWTH & MOVEMENT

You might see some new faces and titles among our staff! As we attempt to meet the needs around Ohio and to lead with a lense of equity, we're grateful to continue experiencing tremendous growth in our agency, adding necessary positions and projects. As part of that, we did a little bit of rearranging within our organizational structure too! You can see our new organizational chart at oaesv.org/staff.

SUPPORTING OUR ORGANIZATIONAL CULTURE

Staff Retreat

One thing that differentiates us from other coalitions is that our team is located all over the state of Ohio, and this was intentional. We know there's brilliance, expertise, and talent – as well as rape crisis centers and

survivors – all across the state. It's important that at least once a year we come together as a team for a few days to really build our relationships and have meaningful, engaging conversation outside of the traditional workplace. This aids us as we continue evolving as a coalition and effectively responding to the needs of our member agencies and to survivors.

Testing Out a 32-Hour Work Week

Many countries tout benefits like a 4-day work week, numerous vacation days and parental leave allowances, and more. Statistics show that when people have these kind of supports, they live a happier life in general! So, with the following goals in mind, we set out to see if a 32-hour work week would be the fit for us: enhance our team's worklife balance, retain our amazing staff, and interrupt capitalism habits that say we have to overwork and be productive to be effective. We followed the data and decided to implement this officially in 2024. We know this allows OAESV employees to do more effective work that gets us farther along in our mission, while still truly enjoying their personal lives.

Continued Self-Care and Professional Development Funds

At OAESV, we believe that our most important resource is our own staff, and we lead using that lens. That means listening to our team's needs and responding in a way that's meaningful for them. Our staff highlighted a desire for funds, space, and time that would support their professional development and their self-care. In 2023, OAESV was happy to continue providing these funds, with at least \$1000 for each staff member's professional development of their choice, and \$1000 for individualized, culturally relevant self-care, including mental healthcare.

“We're walking the walk, making sure our team has what they need. This is really hard work, so having funds set aside where staff can participate in development and self-care that's meaningful to them is very important. We want to prevent burnout as much as possible, and our retention rate speaks to the benefits of these supportive practices.

- Shandra Ingram, OAESV Vice President of Operations

So, now you've heard from some of our leaders, read about our mission and vision, and were introduced to our staff and volunteers. Another foundational aspect of our work is anti-oppression. This means that we consider the effects and realities of the various forms of oppression (racism, sexism, classism, heterosexism, ableism, and more) when we're creating trainings, resources, best practice guides – all of it! [You'll see this reflected in various ways throughout this report, not just on this page, because the anti-oppression perspective should be fully integrated.](#)

WE DO EVERYTHING THROUGH

One way that we center anti-oppression is by leading or co-chairing statewide taskforces, caucuses, and working groups focused on people who have often been marginalized and even underserved in rape crisis response, such as:



WOMEN OF COLOR CAUCUS

The WOCC is a group of diverse women concerned about the violence against women of color and committed to developing leadership in women, community education, and efforts that will influence policy and systems to more effectively respond to and improve the lives of all women.

2-day leadership summit with **60** attendees and **20** new members

- Presented a small business owner with the WOCC Mustard Seed award

LGBTQIA+ TASK FORCE

A multidisciplinary collaborative of professionals and individuals dedicated to developing resources and best practices addressing domestic violence and sexual assault in lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, and questioning communities. OAESV co-leads the LGBTQIA+ Taskforce, comprised of community members, allies, anti-violence organizations, and advocates.

ANTI-OPPRESSION COMMITTEE

The AOC advocates for leaders and people of color in anti-violence work through actively addressing individual and institutional oppression.

The AOC hosts an online training for those doing anti-sexual violence work to aide in understanding and cultivating anti-oppression frameworks and practices within these organizations.

30 participants completed the training with **64** others signing up but not yet finished (we know 2024 will be their year!)

OHIO CO-CONSPIRATORS IN ENDING OPPRESSION

CIEO is comprised of beneficiaries of white privilege. Members strive to honor their responsibility to dismantle racism and intersecting forms of oppression through humility, self-examination, relationship-building, accountability, and sustainable actions.

49 members hosted **8** working group meetings and **3** events on white supremacy culture facilitated by Tamika Jackson.

Published **9** newsletters with anti-racism resources, education, and calls to action.

To ensure our response to sexual violence and care for survivors is uniform and best practice, it is our honor and responsibility to provide **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE** to our members. Whether it was via email or face-to-face in one of the state's rape crisis centers, OAESV staff were able to partner with programs to work through specific barriers, with the ultimate objective of improving services for survivors and community members.

In 2023, our staff was able to provide this personalized technical assistance over 250 times, supporting 112 different organizations and individuals.

HOW CAN WE HELP?



PARTICIPANT

in our anti-oppression training

“One big takeaway for me is that sexual violence is a form of oppression. I thought that sexual violence (and racism) were separate social issues, so that was an interesting thing to learn.”

TYPES OF ASSISTANCE

- Program Operations & Services
- Coordinated Community Responses
- Housing/Homelessness
- Economic Empowerment
- Shelter
- Transitional Housing
- Prevention Program Development
- Funding/Grant Sources
- Grant Writing
- Public Policy Development & Implementation
- Member Check-in
- Basic Sexual Assault 101 Education
- Most Impacted Communities
- Community Education/Organizing
- Healthcare
- Statistics/Data/Reports
- State Legislation
- Therapy/Counseling
- Program Referral
- Case Management
- National Legislation
- Hotline/Crisis Intervention
- Hospital/Medical Advocacy
- Curricula and Training Issues
- Title IX
- Teen/Minor Legal Issues
- Response to Sexual Assault Survivors
- Criminal Sexual Assault Processes
- Standards of Services
- Program Evaluation
- Engaging Men
- Anti-Oppression
- LGBTQIA+ Communities
- Immigrant Communities
- Civil Codes
- Criminal Codes
- Family Law
- Disabled Communities
- Orders of Protection
- Prosecution Response

A survivor was able to finish earning her college degree after her rapist was expelled following Title IX proceedings in which the OAESV clinic provided legal representation.

The OAESV Survivor Empowerment and Advisory Council was formed to provide survivor-led thought leadership, resources, and public speaking.

2 new programs qualified as Rape Crisis Centers in Ohio.

Crawford and Clinton county SARTs re-started after several years of hiatus, reconciling gaps in survivor services. SARTs also formed in Seneca and Tuscarawas counties.

...JUST TO NAME A FEW

COALITION-BUILDING IS AN ART

Above all, advocating for systems change and empowering communities to prevent sexual assaults requires successful collaboration. Individuals and teams must transcend their sense of isolation and working in silos. When we all come together as a collective to jointly shoulder responsibilities, align on goals, make decisions, and exhibit enthusiastic dedication towards our shared objective of eradicating violence once and for all, that is when we take the largest steps toward success.

At OAESV, we believe [there is power and strength in the collective](#). That is why we continue to partner with organizations that fund important survivors' services, prevention, and systems advocacy to strengthen anti-sexual violence work statewide.



In 2023, OAESV coordinated in-person program visits to 31 Qualified Rape Crisis Centers, as well as two programs who previously received state line item funding, and two new and developing programs. Visits were focused on meeting local staff, seeing their location, and discussing with program representatives and peer reviewers how their program aligned with OAESV's Core Standards. The visits also underscored various training and technical assistance needs, which we've incorporated into our programming with intention.

340

meetings focused on multidisciplinary projects, systems advocacy, and coordinated community response



PROGRAM VISIT
Survivor Advocacy Outreach Program



TWO NEW RAPE CRISIS PROGRAMS

Due to successful rural outreach, relationship building, and program visits, OAESV added two new programs to our statewide map of Qualified Rape Crisis Centers, primarily serving rural areas: TCN Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Crisis Center (Champaign and Logan counties), and Square One (Gallia, Jackson, Lawrence, and Meigs counties).

Regular meetings & events that we hosted in 2023:

OAESV held regular meetings and events in 2023 focused on pulling various groups together to increase the effectiveness of anti-sexual violence work in Ohio. These included: First Friday Public Policy Calls; Thirsty Thursdays; Advocate Roundtables; Ohio Campus Coalition for Advocates and Preventionists; Prevention Workgroups; Prevention Pop-Ins; Regional Meetings; Survivor Empowerment Advisory Council; BeTheOne Youth Focus Group; StoryCenter Survivor Storytelling Workshops; Quarterly Rape Crisis Center Directors Meetings; Program Visits; State Prevention Town Hall Meetings.

"I want to be a part of this group because if I don't do something about the problems in my generation, who will? It is my time to step up. I am willing and ready to make the changes in the world."

APPLICANT FOR YOUTH FOCUS GROUP
We received **843** applications for our BeTheOne youth-led initiative!



IN-PERSON MEETING
Immigrant and Refugee Ohio Coalition to End Sexual Assault

FORENSIC NURSING

A major aspect of many survivors' journeys is receiving care from a forensic nurse, so our Statewide Director of Forensic Nursing focuses on ensuring survivors around Ohio receive consistent and accessible care. This work is focused on building essential collaborations with multidisciplinary partners statewide, developing resources, influencing public policy, and creating a standardized approach.

- In 2023, we worked closely with the International Association of Forensic Nurses to enhance educational opportunities and resources for forensic nurses in Ohio, aiming to elevate the quality and reach of sexual assault services on a broader scale.
- OAESV also had the honor of co-chairing the Sexual Assault Advisory Board of Ohio (SAABO) in 2023. The mission of SAABO is to ensure that all victims of sexual assault or sexual abuse have consistent access to quality medical care in the collection of evidence that meets the standards set forth in the Ohio Protocol for Sexual Assault Medical and Forensic Examination (Protocol).

TRAINING & EVENTS TO IGNITE A COLLECTIVE FORCE

Every year, we provide trainings and events for victim service professionals, allied professionals, and the public on a variety of topics related to the prevention of and response to sexual violence. They are relevant, forward thinking, timely, and innovative, and they center the voices and lived experiences of diverse survivors in our work and in Ohio.

62
trainings

over **238**
hours of training

3,366
attendees



SUPPORTING OHIO'S ADVOCATES

In 2023, we were able to provide \$40,000 in scholarships, allowing 70 survivor service providers to attend various state and national conferences, including the Ohio Attorney General's Two Days in May Conference, the National Organization for Victim Advocacy Conference, and the National Sexual Assault Conference. This representation of Ohioans doing anti-sexual violence work is imperative in these statewide and national spaces.

- \$40,000 in scholarships
- 28 national organization memberships
- 70 attendees from Ohio supported, in addition to OAESV staff

In 2023, the Seasonal Training Series was created in order to provide our members intermediate and advanced training sessions on particular topics within the anti-violence field. Each training series is divided into three webinar presentations and the topics are selected based on input from our members directly. We've shifted to this three-part format in order for us to intentionally weave into each training specific considerations around our Core Rape Crisis Standards and the needs of adult learners. While the full training series itself is available only to our members, we make sure to provide supplemental resources on each topic to the general public through our social media platforms and our Resource Library.

3-PART SEASONAL TRAINING SERIES

Winter: Supporting Survivors of Sexual Assault with Disabilities

Members learned how Ohio's sexual violence movement can provide more comprehensive and compassionate services to survivors with disabilities.

Spring: Getting to the Core of Leadership in the Anti-Sexual Violence Movement

Members learned about leadership skill building and gained skills related to non-profit project management and trauma-informed supervision.

Summer: K-12 Education and Support

Members learned about Erin's Law implementation, tips to overcome school-based program barriers, and reducing harm in mandatory reporting situations.

Fall: Story Stewardship

Members learned how to provide survivors of sexual violence a trusted space to share their story, including storytelling ethics, storytelling strategies and techniques, and how to run storytelling workshops.

OCCAP SUMMER SUMMIT

In 2023, the Ohio Campus Coalition for Advocates and Preventionists joined for their first in-person meeting since 2020 for a day of training and connection with anti-violence workers across the state.

STORYCENTER X OAESV

In collaboration with StoryCenter, we hosted workshops to empower survivors in rural Ohio. They created digital stories to educate community members and engage them in prevention activities.

STATE PREVENTION PLAN TOWN HALLS

OAESV convened town hall sessions, open to anyone working in violence prevention, to reintroduce the State Prevention Plan, provide feedback, and begin designing communities of practice around the plan's goals.

CCRT TRAINING INSTITUTE

A 2-day training to increase sustainable, Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) and Coordinated Community Response Team (CCRT) trauma-informed practices, with workshops held on trauma-informed care, cultural humility, and the basics of sexual assault response.

EXCELLENCE IN LEGAL ADVOCACY

In collaboration with the Ohio Domestic Violence Network, we hosted a training on working with survivors representing themselves in the legal system (otherwise known as pro se).

EVALUATION FOUNDATIONS FOR PREVENTION EDUCATORS

OAESV teamed up with the Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault to give participants a foundation for understanding the how and why to thinking like an evaluator. Participants learned the purpose of program evaluation, helpful evaluation planning frameworks, and which evaluation methods will best meet programming needs.

REGIONAL MEETINGS

A series of in-person events for members to grow skills, network, and talk with others in the field about topics relevant to their region.

”
I WAS
ABLE TO BE IN
A ROOM WITH
PEOPLE FACING THE
SAME STRUGGLES AS WE
ARE BUT ALSO KNOW THAT
THERE CAN BE A SOLUTION. I AM
GRATEFUL TO BE A PART OF A
COMMUNITY THAT WANTS SURVIVORS'
VOICES TO BE HEARD AND NOT SILENCED.

OCCAP Summer Summit Attendee



ANNUAL CONFERENCE FORGING NEW PATHWAYS

In 2023, we saw an increase in services for survivors and shifts in what survivors need. We saw the continued need for prevention in our communities as violence against our loved ones has persisted. The increased awareness of our work, intersecting with an increased knowledge of public health, fosters exciting innovation, but also exposes new barriers. It feels like we're at a crossroads – can we overcome the barriers and find a new path? At our annual conference on June 20 to 22, we explored these new pathways and how to make them possible.



USING OUR COLLECTIVE POWER IN ACTION

7 AFFINITY GROUPS & LEARNING SESSIONS

- LGBTQIA+ People of Color
- LGBTQIA+ White People
- Men in the Field
- People with Disabilities
- People of Color
- Transgender & Gender Nonconforming People
- Survivors in the Field
- Screening of "Intentionally Erased" documentary from A Call to Men

2 PLENARY SESSIONS

- How I Got Over
- Weaving the Threads: Exploring the Intersection of Queer, Muslim, Immigrant, and South Asian Identities in the Context of Sexual Violence.

10 WORKSHOPS

- Using Storytelling to Destigmatize Sexual and Reproductive Health and Reclaim Narratives of Collective Care
- Using Trauma-Informed Leadership to Build Retention
- Beat the Blame Game
- Losses and Gains in the Shift to Online Support Groups (And Do We Go Back?)
- A Radical Approach to Centering Anti-Oppression in the Workplace
- Illustrating the Importance of Non-Traditional Partners
- Righting Past Wrong in the Victim Advocacy Field
- Justice Beyond Sentencing: How Restorative Justice Practices in Ohio can Lead to More Survivor-Centered Outcomes in the Criminal Justice System
- Creating Safety Nets, Not Superheroes
- The "Imperfect Victim": The Villainization of Black Girls/Women Survivors of Sexual Abuse
- The Power of Community: Utilizing Listening Circles in Violence Prevention
- Data Driven Prevention: Using iClicker Technology to Shape Violence Prevention Programming
- Adjusting, Adapting, and Advancing School Prevention
- Transitioning Advocacy: Exploring the Future of Working with LGBTQ+ Survivors
- Pause, Reset, and Restore: Finding Calm in the Chaos

"I love collaborating with our community partners across the state on topics related to our work and doing our work better, and I love OAESV conferences and opportunities to learn and grow."

2023 CONFERENCE ATTENDEE

6 AWARDS

- Excellence in Advocacy: Susan Pelle
- Excellence in Legal Services: Elizabeth Well
- Progressive Prevention: Crime Victim Services
- Excellence in Community Response: SAFE on Main
- Unsung Hero: JaQue Galloway
- Visionary Voice: Alexandria Ruden
- 10 Years of Visionary Service: Rosa Beltré

8 SPONSORS

- Thrive For Change
- Well Before
- A Call to Men
- Jakprints
- Creativity by Tiana
- STAR: Stress, Trauma, and Resilience
- Mount Carmel Crime and Trauma Assistance Program
- Cleveland Print Co.



IN-PERSON

After COVID-19 shifted our conferences to the virtual space for a few years, OAESV's 2023 conference was an in-person event in Dublin, Ohio at the OCLC Conference Center.



Gulnar Feerasta



Alyssa Roberts



Eris Eady

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

128
attendees

ADVOCACY SERVICES & ENGAGEMENT WITH SURVIVORS

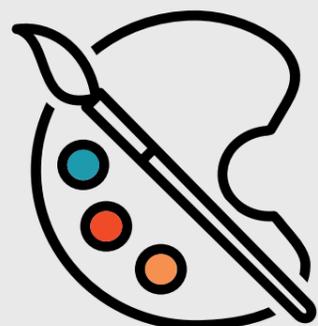
While our main purpose in Ohio is to serve as the federally-recognized training and technical assistance provider for sexual violence-related matters, we also provide many services directly to survivors. These include emotional support, providing information about local services, court accompaniment, housing support, and more. We've also been working hard to re-launch our survivor advisory council—with an updated name, the Survivor Empowerment Advisory Council. StoryCenter also partnered with us to offer storytelling workshops to survivors in rural areas.

ADVOCACY

- We **SERVED 200 SURVIVORS** through our resource line, general email inbox, and statewide advocacy services.
- **OVER 300 HOURS OF DIRECT SERVICE ADVOCACY** to survivors (including case work, court accompaniment, emotional support, and travel)
- Advocacy Glimmers
 - After many hours of direct service advocacy, we saw a survivor meet their goal of leaving their house and starting a job within the community.
 - We provided advocacy services for a college student. In the beginning of our work with her, she was unsure if she would be able to graduate due to the victimization. Well, she graduated and is in her masters program for social work, planning to become an advocate!
 - A survivor who previously lost their love for art is back in love with it and works at an art studio.

HOUSING

- Many survivors need to leave home due to sexual violence happening there, sometimes being perpetrated by household members, landlords, or neighbors. Others need to find alternative housing to heal from and lessen the effects of the trauma they've experienced, especially if the person who perpetrated the assault knows where they live.
- Using **GRANT FUNDING WE RECEIVED FROM THE FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND SERVICES (FVPSA) PROGRAM**, we officially launched our Meaningful Access Housing Program in April of 2023. This program provides short-term hotel stays to survivors of sexual violence throughout the state of Ohio.
- OAESV was **ONE OF THE FIRST SEXUAL VIOLENCE COALITIONS** to receive funding to provide emergency and transitional housing specifically for sexual violence survivors!
- In the **FIRST 8 MONTHS OF THIS GROUNDBREAKING PROGRAM, WE PROVIDED 556 NIGHTS OF SHELTER**, coordinated through outreach and collaboration with rape crisis centers around the state. These services are especially needed in **RURAL AND GEOGRAPHICALLY ISOLATED AREAS** and are often unavailable if domestic violence isn't co-occurring.



300

hours of advocacy directly to survivors in counties without a rape crisis center

SURVIVOR STORYTELLING PROJECT

- The OAESV survivor storytelling project is a trauma-informed, survivor-led, and ethical storytelling project which engages survivors of sexual violence in a series of StoryCenter workshops to craft digital stories to be utilized for education and prevention of sexual violence in rural Ohio.
- The following feedback was provided by participants:
 - This was my final piece of healing, with the knowledge that it'll be ongoing regardless. Previously, I had only shared bits and pieces to people who know me and never in this digital manner. Stories matter, and I'm glad to give mine a place where it can hopefully help others in their own healing journeys.
 - It was a huge step in my healing. This is something I've kept secret for 8 years of my life, and telling it feels freeing.
 - I feel lighter, if that makes sense. I poured my heart into this project, and I'm so glad to have gotten the opportunity to participate in this experience.
- Survivors learned storytelling, video recording, and video editing skills. Survivors not only told a specific story in a trauma-informed and survivor-led way, but they left the group with the skills to continue embracing their voices.
- Once approved by our funder, they will be utilized for prevention and awareness, to mobilize rural communities to fill gaps for sexual violence survivors. The completed stories are also incredible tools for validating and normalizing survivor experiences, and likely will have the outcome of making other survivors feel seen in 2024.



SURVIVOR EMPOWERMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

- We've also been working hard to re-launch our survivor advisory council, and with an updated name: the Survivor Empowerment Advisory Council! The goal of the Council is to **FOSTER PARTICIPATION FROM SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE** to inform OAESV's programming and to advocate for prevention and systems change in Ohio. In July 2023, OAESV welcomed the **NEW CLASS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR 2023-2024**.
- So far, the group has worked to inform and shape OAESV's 2024 public policy agenda and build a mental health resource for survivors in Ohio.



"This experience was more powerful and healing than any therapy I've tried. The unwavering support and community of other survivors brought me to a finished project I can be proud of."

Survivor Storytelling Project Participant

SHAPING OHIO'S PUBLIC POLICY

As the coalition, OAESV works to represent Ohio's survivors and rape crisis centers in the public policy arena. We work closely with local rape crisis programs; other national, statewide, and local advocacy groups; survivors; and elected officials to advocate for policy that supports comprehensive services for survivors, and the prevention of sexual violence in our communities. OAESV educates legislators and other decision-makers about the impact of existing and proposed policies that affect survivors of sexual violence and Ohio's rape crisis centers.

In June, OAESV attended #AdvocacyDays on Capitol Hill, hosted by the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence & the National Network to End Domestic Violence. We were able to sponsor Executive Directors of three rape crisis centers to join us, and our groups advocated for rape crisis and domestic violence funding and uplifted urgent survivor needs across Ohio.



19 coalition sign-on letters, public comments, and other letters submitted by OAESV to state and federal governments.

553 advocacy messages sent through OAESV's grassroots efforts to state and federal lawmakers.

568 people reached through First Friday calls, Advocacy Day, our Two Days in May workshop, and other trainings requested by members and non-members.

12 bills influenced in the Ohio State Legislature.

136 meetings with lawmakers. This is roughly 1 lawmaker meeting every 2.5 days in 2023!

STATE LEGISLATIVE VICTORIES:

- We secured **\$30 MILLION** in the Ohio Operating Budget for rape crisis programs for Fiscal Years 2024-2025. This is a **73% INCREASE** from FY2022-2023.
- House Bill 35, Scouts' Honor Act, passed and was **SIGNED INTO LAW**.
- House Bill 161, the bill to eliminate the spousal rape loophole, **PASSED OUT OF THE OHIO HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**.
- OAESV coordinated **18 PIECES OF TESTIMONY** for the bill in 2023.

THANK YOU

Thank you to our Ohio Legislature for the historic **\$30 million investment** in Ohio's rape crisis programs and survivors around the state.

Thank you to US Sen. Sherrod Brown for championing the momentous **\$700,000** federal earmark for Ohio survivors who need housing.



10TH ANNUAL ADVOCACY DAY

Since 2013, OAESV's Annual Advocacy Day to End Sexual Violence has provided advocates, survivors, and interested members of the public with the opportunity to express the importance of sexual violence advocacy and prevention to members of the Ohio Legislature.



In 2023, **over 100** people joined OAESV for our first in-person Advocacy Day since 2019! So many people, in fact, that we had to take the group photo on the panoramic setting!

The day's events consisted of a speaking event in the morning and small group and one-on-one meetings with lawmakers in the afternoon, where many shared insight on pending legislation and made informed requests for funding increases.

BILLS WE FOCUSED ON:

- House Bill 124 – Statute of Limitations Reform
- House Bill 33 – Maintain Budget Increase
- House Bill 143 – Housing Protections for Survivors

SPEAKERS:

- Jen Seifert, Executive Director of Survivor Advocacy Outreach Program, OAESV Board Member
- Minority Leader Allison Russo
- Representative Scott Lipps, Sponsor of Erin's Law
- Teresa Stafford, CEO of Hope & Healing Survivor Resource Center
- Representative Jessica E. Miranda
- Chris Graham, survivor



"I welcome you into Advocacy Day, into the collective. Join me on the broad shoulders of giants—those activists, those survivors—in envisioning a new world. A world without sexual violence."

Jen Seifert

"I'm so proud of all of you... Without RCCs, Erin's Law would not have passed, so thank you."

Rep. Scott Lipps



OAESV LEGAL SERVICES

Our legal team offers a variety of resources, services, training, technical assistance, and representation across the state of Ohio through our OAESV Legal Clinic and our Legal Access Works (LAW) Legal Assistance Program. The OAESV Legal Clinic is also part of a newly formed association of attorneys working to protect and uplift victims' rights in Ohio.

OAESV LEGAL CLINIC

The OAESV Legal Clinic is proud to stand as Ohio's only legal services provider dedicated solely to protecting the rights of survivors of sexual violence. The Clinic provides legal assistance to survivors often left out of other legal services programs (including those serving only survivors of intimate partner violence or those only serving survivors involved in criminal system matters).



LEGAL ISSUES ADDRESSED BY ATTORNEYS IN 2023:

Protection orders • Family law matters • Employment • Consumer finance • Housing • Criminal issues • Educational issues

VICTIM SERVICES PROVIDED BY ATTORNEYS IN 2023:

Safety planning • Support services • Virtual office hours



Consistently, clients have shared positive feedback about how our clinic's services have empowered them to regain control and feel safe again. During this reporting period, **two clients took the time to send handwritten thank-you letters.** A recent trend we've noticed is clients expressing gratitude even when courtroom outcomes were not as expected; clients emphasize the positive impact of having someone advocate for them and support them in sharing their truth. This aligns with our clinic's ethos of letting each survivor define "success" in a trauma-informed, survivor-centered manner.



A FEW (OF MANY) SUCCESS STORIES:

- Several clients were able to complete their college degrees knowing the person who assaulted them would not be on campus; one of those clients will start law school next year.
- We helped a client and her minor child change their last names, a meaningful way to leave behind the legacy of a name they once shared with their abuser.
- We ensured that public documents disclosing a survivor's identity were redacted by the Ohio Supreme Court.
- After several negative experiences led to mistrust in the legal system, we helped a client obtain a civil protection order against her abuser; she is now working as an advocate for others at a domestic violence agency.
- We convinced a criminal court to extend no-contact order protections to an infant who was present in the home during a sexual assault on the basis that studies have proven merely being exposed to violence in the home during childhood results in negative outcomes well into adulthood.

PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF SURVIVORS THROUGHOUT OHIO'S LEGAL SYSTEMS

LEGAL ACCESS WORKS LEGAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

OAESV contracts with private attorneys throughout Ohio to provide legal assistance to survivors of sexual violence. This program allows OAESV to partner with private attorneys with a range of legal expertise to ensure sexual violence survivors can receive representation to meet their needs. OAESV's panel of attorneys provided direct representation with a variety of case types resulting in ongoing support during the very difficult and complicated cases facing survivors. The Legal Assistance Program also paid for some court fees, which greatly assisted survivors being able to access the system services they need to feel and be safer. Additionally, attorneys provided safety planning as needed.



CASE TYPES THROUGHOUT 2023 INCLUDED:

Protection orders • Divorces • Title IX processes • Victim's rights support • A motion to quash



NEW PROJECTS & AWARDS

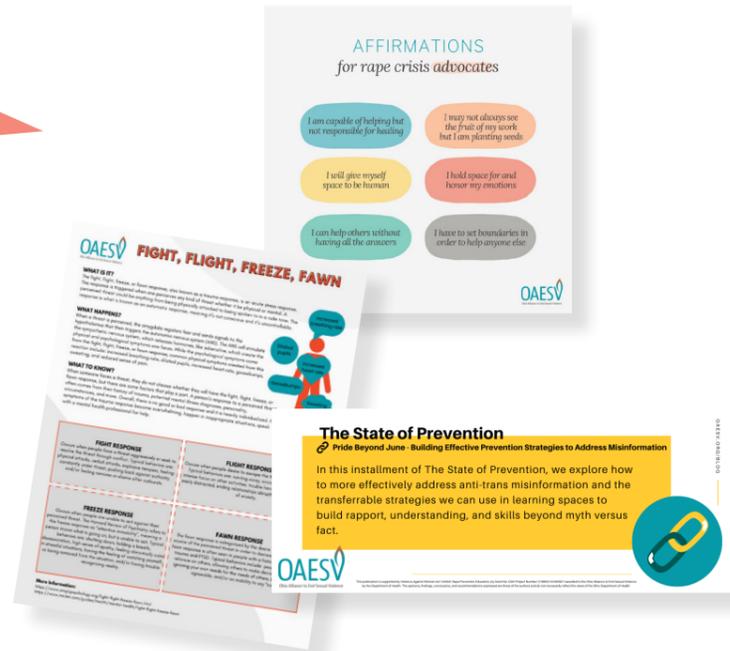
If only we had 100 more pages to reflect on what we have achieved and look ahead to the new year full of opportunities and growth. Check back in 2024 to see our progress on these new projects!

- OAESV is beginning a CDC-funded project dedicated to implementing an internal primary prevention capacity assessment to understand strengths and gaps in providing high quality technical assistance on primary prevention.
- OAESV's Prevention & Public Health team received a grant from Bloomberg American Health Initiative to turn the Be the One campaign into a Youth Ambassador program led by teens throughout Ohio, providing opportunities for them to lead sexual violence prevention in their communities.
- For the first time, we received funding through the Ohio State Bar foundation and SA Kit Funding from the Office of Criminal Justice Services.
- In partnership with the Forensic Nursing Network, the OAESV team will be working on a Sexual Assault Kit training initiative and creating trainings for law enforcement and forensic nurses.
- OAESV is working on establishing a Transitional Housing Program that will provide long-term housing assistance.
- Through an OVW rural grant, we are expanding Coordinated Community Response Teams in rural Ohio. This grant also paved the way for two new rape crisis centers, TCN Behavioral Health and Square One, to get connected with OAESV and placed on our map.

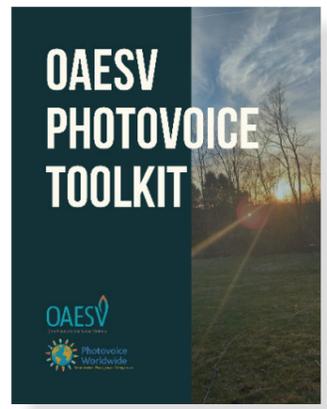
TELLING THE OAESV STORY THROUGH RESOURCES & PUBLIC AWARENESS

Whether we are distributing newsletters and fact sheets on pertinent topics, sharing current news and events on social media, or crafting resources and training materials for advocates, prevention educators, and community members – our goal is always to raise awareness and support survivors and those working in the field. Through social media, flyers, podcast episodes, press releases, blog posts, and even reports such as this one, we can tell the story of our work, and demonstrate to stakeholders and the community at large that collaborative efforts, high-quality resources, and public awareness are crucial to achieving our vision: [an Ohio free from sexual violence](#).

- 31 NEWSLETTERS
- 15 VIDEOS
- 41 PROMOTIONAL FLYERS
- 10 PODCAST EPISODES
- 5 BLOG POSTS
- 4 WEB PAGES
- 4 TRAINING CURRICULA
- 3 FACT SHEETS
- 1 BROCHURE
- 1 PUBLIC STATEMENT



330 social media posts
9,930 total reel plays



PHOTOVOICE TOOLKIT

Spanning 190 pages, our largest resource in 2023 was our Photovoice Toolkit. In collaboration with Photovoice Worldwide and several Ohio preventionists, this toolkit serves a full overview of how to facilitate a successful Photovoice project from start to finish. It provides success stories, sample language, checklists, and more.

119K
SOCIAL MEDIA VIEWS

COMMUNICATION IS CENTRAL TO OUR WORK.

As the trusted expert on sexual violence in Ohio, we know our words hold weight. By sharing our knowledge, increasing awareness, shaping attitudes, and fostering change, we are dedicated to providing current information to the public, our members, the media, and other stakeholders regarding sexual violence and its effects in Ohio.

85,000 oaesv.org page views
by almost 30,000 users

We reached an average of 6,700 people each month with our social media messaging

Featured in 150 unique articles

When we appeared in print, there were 979,414 copies distributed!

TOP TOPICS:

- HB 161 – Spousal Rape Loophole
- OAESV’s Meaningful Access Housing Program
- Sexual assault kit tracking initiatives

GUEST ON THESE PODCASTS:

- Just Healing with Richard Smith
- PreventConnect Podcast
- Table Talks with New Directions
- Both/And: A Sexual Violence Prevention Podcast

“If I could give \$100,000 to one group, I would choose the Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence because they are doing phenomenal work here in Ohio for survivors, public policy, and inclusion.

Rep. Jessica Miranda in an interview with Cincinnati Business Courier’s BizJournals



“If our goal or our aim is to eliminate sexual violence, then we have to address the root causes of it, and not just put band-aids on it.”

Gulnar Feerasta, Teal Talk Episode 3

TEAL TALK 2.0

Notably, in 2023, we re-launched our monthly podcast, where we discuss issues affecting survivors of sexual violence in Ohio. We interview professionals in the field to spark conversation and break down barriers to building communities free from sexual violence. Hosted by Laurie Hamame, Resource & Communications Coordinator, and Taylr Ucker-Lauderman, Chief Engagement Officer.



TOP 4 EPISODES OF 2023:

01. Navigating Disability Pride in an Ableist World with Indiana Disability Justice
02. A Look into the Work of a State Anti-Sexual Violence Coalition with Rosa Beltré of OAESV
03. Culturally Responsive Services for AAPI Survivors with Asian Services in Action
04. Pride is a Movement, Not a Moment with the LGBT Community Center of Greater Cleveland

FINANCIAL REPORT

We believe in transparency in all that we do, including how we spend our funds. We owe it to our stakeholders to be good financial stewards of the resources we're entrusted with.

INCOME: \$3,113,434.76

Government Grants:	\$2,827,713.07
Foundations:	\$118,000.00
Contracts:	\$41,006.47
In Kind:	\$51,583.0
Donations:	\$29,916.85
Membership:	\$19,600.00
Registrations:	\$21,730.00
Other:	\$3,885.37



EXPENSES: \$3,099,364.01

Program Services:	\$2,789,431.11
Management & General:	\$226,226.24
Development:	\$83,706.66

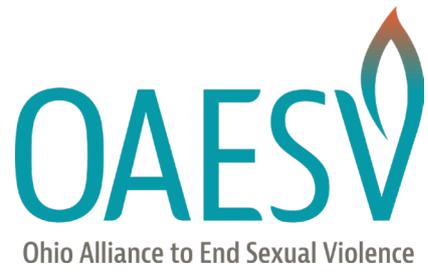
* Due to the timing of our report, this is unaudited financial data.

THANK YOU

Thank you to those who help fund this work, including our members, donors, sponsors, and funders. To preserve privacy, member and donor names aren't listed here, but please know that we appreciate each and every one of you. You can find our event sponsors on the annual conference page. Thank you all!

Funders:

- Bloomberg American Health Initiative
- Federal Earmark (Byrne Grant)
- Centers for Disease Control
- Office on Violence Against Women
- Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services
- Gund Foundation
- MrBallen Foundation (Honor grant)
- Ohio State Bar Foundation
- Ohio Attorney General's Office
- Ohio Department of Health
- Wana Brands Foundation



6111 Oak Tree Blvd
Suite 140
Independence, OH
44131

CONTACT

216-658-1381
info@oaesv.org