



Dear Community Partners, Funders, Educators, Advocates, and Friends,

OAESV has been working tirelessly to empower survivors and challenge communities to build solutions to prevent and end sexual violence.

2018 will be remembered as the year that shaped the way we did this work. No longer was sexual violence silent, from shining the light on Tarana Burke's "Me Too" movement and Time's Up (which asked for accountably of Corporate America, the entertainment industry, and their sexual harassment cultures) to Dr. Christine Blasey Ford's fearless testimony in front of congress.

2018 was a year of public outrage and momentum. Survivors were no longer silent. They felt empowered to share their stories. They embraced their voices, and we heard them loud and clear. The entire nation heard the cry of hundreds of thousands of survivors.

Sexual assault, rape, harassment, and incest was amplified and gave OAESV the opportunity to engage with advocates, preventionists, survivors, and community partners and to leverage this public outcry into public policy change, trainings, summits, and technical assistance that would greatly impact the landscape of our state.

I am honored to lead OAESV during this historic momentum in our anti-violence movement, hoping to create healthier communities and platforms to do this work with intention and with an anti-oppression lens, where survivors will have access to services in all 88 counties of our state.

OAESV recognizes that there is still much work to be done, but we are energized by the opportunities that lie ahead of us. It's an exciting time in Ohio for improving the system response and changing the way we are working to prevent sexual violence.

Thank you for walking with us; thank you for believing and supporting survivors all across Ohio.

Sincerely,

Rosa Beltré

**Executive Director** 

# **OAESV STAFF**

OAESV Staff traveled 59,015 miles this past year to provide training, technical assistance, education, and outreach with the goal of ensuring that survivors in Ohio have the most competent and accessible services possible. We are thankful to be able to provide this necessary support to local rape crisis centers and other organizations in Ohio. The staff pictured below reflect the OAESV team and titles as they stood in 2018.



**Becky Perkins**Director of Communications



**Camille Crary**Director of Legal Services
& Public Policy



**Shandra Witherspoon** SART Training & TA Coordinator



**Tiearra James**Resource Specialist/
Office Administrator



**Lynn Bilal**Prevention Coordinator



**Kelly Becker**Training & Technical
Assistance Specialist



**Lana Baird** Finance Specialist



**Ann Brandon**Prevention Coordinator



Melissa Obodzinski
Resource & Communications
Coordinator



Megan Jones-Williams
Director of Training & Advocacy



**Becca Getson** Legal Advocate



#### **Board of Directors**

Sharlene Boltz, President

Julie Broadwell, Vice President

Ryn Farmer, Secretary

Shari Murnahan, Treasurer

**Daniel Galek** 

Dr. Tyffani Monford Dent

**Shannon Conrad Wokojance** 

**Courtney Walton** 

Sonya Holland

**Emily Resnik** 

**Kourtney Brueckner** 

**Kelly Smith** 

# PUBLIC POLICY & ADVOCACY

#### **EMBRACE YOUR VOICE**

#### **Legislative Strategy & Testimony**

OAESV works with its Survivor Advisory Council and local rape crisis centers to develop long-and short-term public policy objectives. OAESV staff then develop and implement strategies to support passage of laws and budget resolutions necessary to achieve those objectives. In 2018, OAESV staff provided testimony to the Ohio Legislature on a number of bills and held numerous legislative meetings in order to gain support for an increase to the Rape Crisis Centers Line Item in the Ohio Operating Budget.



In 2018, OAESV coordinated proponent testimony for Ohio's Advocate Privilege Bill, gathering in-person and written statements from rape crisis programs and survivors to the Ohio Senate Judiciary Committee.



#### INFORMATION/REFERRAL

Criminal justice process information

Information about victim rights

Referral to other services, supports, resources, programs

Hotline/crisis line counseling

#### PERSONAL ADVOCACY

Assistance in applying for public benefits, return of personal property, or effects

Law enforcement interview advocacy/ accompaniment

Intervention with employer, creditor, landlord, or academic institution

Criminal advocacy/accompaniment

#### CRIMINAL/CIVIL JUSTICE

Civil legal attorney assistance with family law issues

Notification of criminal justice events

Civil legal attorney assistance

Emergency justice-related assistance

#### **Survivor & Rape Crisis Center Engagement**

In 2018, OAESV engaged survivors and local programs in the furtherance of our community's public policy goals through the implementation of two comprehensive Call to Action projects. The first Call to Action project promoted local program and survivor engagement in pursuing passage of the Violence Against Women Act. The second expanded opportunities for pre-session engagement in our large-scale effort that ultimately increased the Rape Crisis Centers Line Item by 220 percent in Summer 2019.



# **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. The one-on-one meetings with lawmakers provide invaluable opportunities for rape crisis professionals to share insight on pending legislation and make informed requests for funding increases.

In 2018, OAESV made a concerted effort to craft a program that not only allowed for survivor engagement, but would result in increased legislative interest in response to #Metoo and other current issues impacting survivors. Thus, OAESV focused its program on policies that enhance survivor voices, with the theme "Embrace Your Voice, Ohio!" Armed with OAESV fact sheets and other resources for legislators, attendees met with 56 lawmakers and aides.



# **We Support Survivors**

As Ohio's statewide coalition, OAESV advocates for comprehensive responses and rape crisis services for survivors and empowers communities to prevent sexual violence.

#### **OAESV 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

Eradicate sexual violence



#### **Annual Conference**

The theme of the 2018 Annual Conference was focused on harnessing the power of the many voices and efforts to end sexual and intimate partner violence in order to transform the culture. The #MeToo and #TimesUp initiatives, along with numerous ongoing efforts to address cultural and institutional oppression, have demonstrated that our society has possibly never been more publicly aware of the problem of sexual and intimate partner violence, and never more engaged in grassroots, cultural, and survivor-led efforts to confront that violence. The 2018 Annual Conference sought to learn from these efforts and how we could carry them forward in our work to prevent sexual and intimate partner violence, provide more effective responses to survivors, and amplify the voices of survivors and communities.



#### **TRAINING**

OAESV utilized 53 venues to train 2,088 individuals in 2018. OAESV provides its training, technical assistance, and resources to members—and to all who seek to improve services—with the goal of ensuring that survivors in Ohio have the most competent and accessible services possible. We are thankful to be able to provide this necessary support to local rape crisis centers and other organizations in Ohio.

#### **ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF SURVIVORS**

As Ohio's anti-sexual assault coalition, OAESV is uniquely positioned to address the multiple needs of survivors and rape crisis programs in Ohio. OAESV provides training and technical assistance on sexual violence to programs in Ohio and advocates for policies and protocols to improve the system response for survivors. Within the past year, OAESV has expanded the resources, evidence-based training opportunities, and technical assistance available to rape crisis programs.

Current services OAESV provides include: training provided to rape crisis programs in five regions of Ohio; individualized technical assistance available to all rape crisis programs in Ohio; development and dissemination of best practices, policies, and resources that assist programs in meeting and maintaining the core standards; and advocacy, training, and resources for rape crisis advocates serving diverse and underserved populations.



#### **TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE**

Dual sexual assault/domestic violence

program

University/school

Sexual assault program

Other state coalition

Government agency

Prosecutor's office

Health care provider

Domestic violence policy group

Private law firm

State/local court

Law enforcement

Youth program

Civil attorney

Legal services organization

State lawmaker

# TRAINING & TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE



# PUBLIC AWARENESS & RESOURCES

#### **BEING THE VOICE FOR CHANGE**

At OAESV we believe in the importance of providing timely information to the public as well as to our members, the press, and other stakeholders. We continue to update our website in order to be accessible and responsive to the needs of users. We also create and disseminate fact sheets and newsletters on relevant and timely topics and use social media to share current news, events, and information about rape and services for survivors.

#### **Products and Resources**

We also continue to create resources that can be used by advocates and others who wish to support survivors as well as by prevention educators and members of the community who are working to end sexual violence.

We created and published monthly newsletters in 2018 as well as over four brochures focused on #MeToo, the role of a coalition, therapy for trauma survivors, and more.



**PUBLICATIONS** 26 Newsletters (includes OAESV monthly newsletter and monthly legislative newsletter for state lawmakers), 5 Brochures, 1 Report, 1 Flyer, 3 Training Materials

#### **Prevention**

Primary Prevention strategies are imperative in order to shift toward a culture that no longer tolerates any form of sexual violence. OAESV is dedicated to providing trainings and technical assistance that shift from awareness efforts towards outer level (critical mass) strategies in order to help local programs better serve their schools, communities, institutions, businesses, and allied partners.

To that measure, OAESV invited two national prevention organizations to provide multi-day trainings for local program prevention practitioners in order to enhance knowledge and skills for facilitation, build new content, and implement a bystander intervention strategy. The trainings included Catharsis: A Force of Awesome and ALTERISTIC's Community Green Dot strategy.

OAESV tripled its prevention funding in 2018 to better serve local programs' ability to empower and create safer and healthier communities. In the 2018 Prevention NARA Survey participants who received training or technical assistance from OAESV scored the service as "helpful or very helpful".

In 2017-2018, the Ohio Department of Higher Education selected OAESV and Dr. Sharon Wasco as the Campus Climate Survey Vendor. This grant is part of the Changing Campus Culture Initiative for Ohio campuses to collect data and use for action planning. The process included a collaborative team approach with 50 Ohio campuses to individualize each survey and provide recommendations and technical assistance throughout the climate survey process.



# **Our Purpose**

**Lead the Effort** 

**Advocate Public Policy** 

**Train and Assist** 

Provide Information and Resources

Inform and Educate



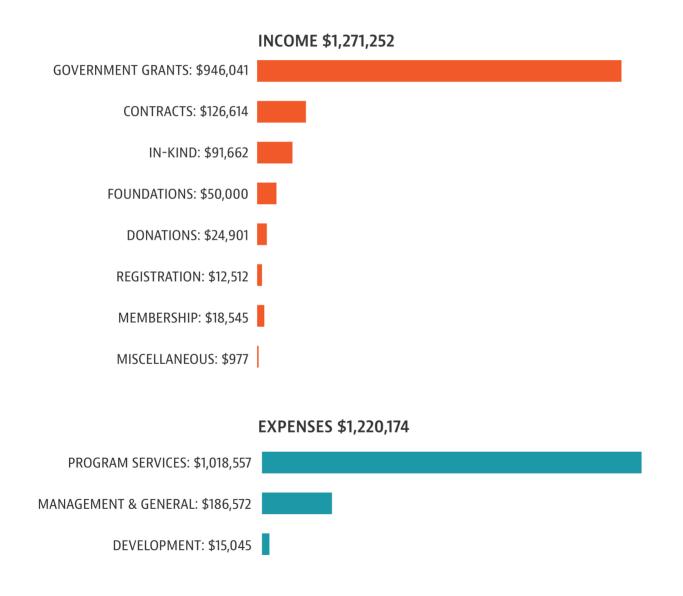
# **Shine the Light**

This signature fundraising event celebrates the work that OAESV and our partners across Ohio do together toward realizing our shared vision of an Ohio free from sexual violence. Each year, we invite you to embrace your voice by helping with our work to support survivors and prevent sexual violence. To be a sustainable organization, it's important for us to have various forms of assistance from our supporters, including monetary and in-kind donations such as those we receive at our fundraisers.



#### **BUILDING TOWARD THE FUTURE**

Each year, we carefully track our income and spending. This helps us to continuously improve the effectiveness of our financial decisions, which ensures that we continue to increase the amount of funds going directly to improving survivor services in Ohio and beyond. We find that it's important to share this information with all of our supporters and stakeholders.



# 2018 FINANCIAL REPORT

This project was supported by Grant No. 2017-SW-AX-0023 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the view of the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women.

# There is power and strength in a collective.



#### Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence

6111 OAK TREE BLVD · SUITE 140 · INDEPENDENCE, OH 44131

216-658-1381 · 888-886-8388

**EMAIL** info@oaesv.org

TWITTER @OhioAllianceESV

FACEBOOK Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence

IG @oaesv

oaesv.org