



## Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence

### Position Description: Survivor Advocate

Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence (OAESV) is Ohio's members-based statewide coalition. OAESV strongly believes that there is power and strength in our collective voices. OAESV is committed to addressing the root causes of sexual violence. Eliminating sexual violence requires public awareness, outreach, and education in a comprehensive manner that illuminates the complex needs of survivors and shines a light on all forms of sexual violence. To that end, OAESV includes and accounts for diversity, equity, and the intersection of all forms of oppression and marginalization in its prevention and intervention efforts, and OAESV is survivor-focused. A primary function of the coalition is to ensure there is a continuum of timely, inclusive, and effective supports, services, and resources for all individuals who seek access because they have been affected by sexual violence. Thus, elevating and responding to the voices and needs of those impacted by sexual violence is paramount to OAESV's work.

The Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence (OAESV) seeks a full-time Survivor Advocate to provide advocacy and referral linkage for survivors of sexual violence who have needs specific to the criminal justice and/or civil legal systems, and for providing training and technical assistance to rape crisis centers with a specific focus on legal advocacy for survivors.

All applicants must be familiar and agree with OAESV's mission statement and philosophy regarding the elimination of sexual violence, anti-oppression, empowerment, inclusiveness, and social change. Ideal candidates will have a solid understanding of the root causes of sexual violence. As is the case with all positions on our team, the selected candidate will be expected to think outside of the box, to be solution-focused, and to find opportunity amid challenges. The ideal candidate will have vision, a positive attitude, high professional standards, and passion for the mission of OAESV. In addition, candidates should be politically savvy, outcome-oriented, and interested in being part of a progressive, mission-driven team. They should have a mind for strategic planning and work with intention and accountability.

**OAESV 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.

#### **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
- End sexual violence

**POSITION OBJECTIVE:** The Survivor Advocate is responsible for providing advocacy and referral linkage for survivors of sexual violence who have needs specific to the criminal justice and/or civil legal systems, and for providing training and technical assistance to rape crisis centers with a specific focus on legal advocacy for survivors. Direct service will focus on counties without a current rape crisis center.

**SALARY RANGE:** \$38,500 to \$42,000 Annually

**REPORTS TO:** Director of Legal Services & Advocacy

#### **ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

##### Advocacy

- Speak with survivors and their loved ones who contact OAESV's Resource Line with questions or needs specific to the criminal justice or civil legal systems, and provide follow-up advocacy and referral linkage as needed
- Assist colleges/universities and local rape crisis centers throughout Ohio in providing systems advocacy for survivors in their communities with complex needs specific to the criminal justice or civil legal systems
- Connect with local Coordinated Community Response Teams, Law Enforcement, and/or Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners, particularly in areas without a local rape crisis center.
- Communicate with and refer to attorneys in Ohio to assist survivors

- Provide advocacy as needed for survivors who are working with OAESV's contract panel attorneys or the Ohio Survivor Legal Assistance Clinic on legal issues related to their victimization, specifically when there is not a local RCC.
- Assist OAESV staff in advocating for victims' rights and best practices that positively impact survivors of sexual violence statewide
- Focus areas include any counties without a local rape crisis center.

#### Training & Technical Assistance

- Assist in the development and facilitation of training events for campus advocates, community-based advocates and allied professionals on issues and needs related to the criminal justice or civil legal systems in response to sexual assault
- Participate in/co-present at regional meetings, webinars, OAESV's Annual Conference, and other events that provide training or continuing education to rape crisis advocates, with emphasis on campus and legal advocacy for survivors of sexual violence
- Provide individualized technical assistance and material resources to colleges/universities and rape crisis programs on legal advocacy issues, as requested and appropriate
- Participate in state-level task forces and committees focused on victims' rights and legal advocacy issues impacting survivors of sexual violence
- Serve as a subject-matter expert on sexual assault campus and legal advocacy for OAESV staff, colleges/universities, and rape crisis centers throughout the state
- Provide training and technical assistance on ongoing updates and changes to Title IX

#### QUALIFICATIONS

- 3-5 years of experience in providing direct services to victims of crime, preferably to survivors of sexual violence
- Demonstrated ability to work professionally, effectively and collaboratively with law enforcement officials, prosecutors, advocates, and allied professionals on issues related to the needs of survivors of sexual violence
- Understanding of the criminal justice system, and demonstrated ability to describe the criminal justice process and articulate the needs of survivors within that process
- Relationship building/community collaborations- to streamline referrals/response mechanisms, including campus SART/ response team meetings, if they have one.
- Understanding confidentiality and how it is interpreted on campus
- Knowledge of Title IX, Clery Act/Campus SaVE
- Ability to navigate campus judicial processes
- A solid understanding of campus policies related to SV and harassment
- Knowledge of how to create and shape MOU's
- Proven ability to provide effective legal advocacy in complex cases
- Experience providing training and technical assistance to victim service professionals

- Associate's degree in Criminology, Psychology, Social Work, or related field, OR equivalent professional experience; Bachelor's degree preferred
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, and ability to produce quality materials in a timely fashion
- Ability to work remotely as part of a team, and to travel extensively throughout Ohio as needed
- Self-directed work ethic and effective time management skills

### HOURS & LOCATION OF WORK

This is a full-time (40 hours/week), salaried, exempt professional position, requiring and offering flexible hours. Occasional evenings and weekends are required. As part of a statewide coalition, the Survivor Advocate may be based from a remote/home office anywhere in Ohio, with the ability to communicate regularly with OAESV staff and to travel extensively throughout the state as needed.

Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence is an equal opportunity employer. OAESV offers a robust and competitive compensation package to all eligible full-time employees, which includes, but is not limited to: vacation, sick, and self-care time. Employee will be eligible for medical, dental, supplemental insurance, group life insurance, and a 401k plan.

OAESV values diversity, equity, and inclusion in the workplace. OAESV values the importance of addressing issues of racism, homophobia, ableism, and other issues of oppression in order to make services accessible to all individuals regardless of race; color; sex; gender identity and expression; sexuality; national origin; religion; age; ethnic background; and social, economic, immigration, marital, physical, and/or mental status. People from historically underserved communities are strongly encouraged to apply.

Please submit cover letter and resume to [www.oaesv.org/2021EmploymentApplication](http://www.oaesv.org/2021EmploymentApplication) Please highlight any experience that specifically addresses the essential functions.