

SHIFTING PREVENTION STRATEGIES

DURING SAAM 2022 & BEYOND

STATISTICS



SUPPORT

Constant statistics about the prevalence of sexual violence can be re-traumatizing for some survivors. During awareness months, remain aware of who and what is being centered throughout!



EXPERTISE



EXPERIENCE

Power with, not power over, communities is crucial to increasing awareness and mobilizing community-driven prevention. SAAM engagement hinges on the relevancy, accessibility, and delivery of information and resources in diverse communities.



STATEMENT



SELF-DETERMINATION

Blanket statements often don't take into consideration the context in which survivors live and identify. This can increase isolation and stigma for survivors and limit efforts for prevention based on a one-size-fits-all approach.



ONE-OFF



ONGOING

Prevention is an ongoing effort. While programming typically increases throughout April, it doesn't end there. Intentional SAAM program planning can be the catalyst for sustainable engagement beyond April.

CONSIDERATIONS

GENERAL

- Move beyond general stats and into prevention-specific strategies, such as how to start conversations about SV with a young person, reviewing workplace policies and procedures, or guidance for community accountability
- Include accessibility features to meet diverse community needs
- Collaborate! What's already being done in your local communities?
- Include a mixture of primary, secondary, and tertiary prevention approaches
- Ask for feedback! Evaluations can help inform future SAAM strategies

FOR PREVENTIONISTS

- Emphasize programs, services, and support that can be offered beyond SAAM
- No need to reinvent the wheel! Adapt templates and programming for your needs (Check out OAESV and NSVRC toolkits for guidance)
- Consider your audiences and how resources are getting to them-- who's left out?
- Include content warnings when sharing statistics and prevalence-centered messages
- Root programs and resources in resilience, healing, empowerment, and support
- Include community members in SAAM program decisions and implementation

FOR ORG LEADERSHIP

- Build in opportunities to celebrate frontline staff internally and externally throughout the month (and beyond!)
- Identify tangible supportive measures such as self-care days, regular supervisor check-ins, realistic expectation setting, interdepartmental efforts, etc.
- Strategically plan how to maintain excitement and capacity building throughout the year to minimize the logistical lift during SAAM
- Leverage community partnerships to support frontline staff efforts to collaborate

FOR COVID-19

- Continue to approach SAAM with hybrid access in mind
- Immunocompromised folks and young people not eligible for the vaccine are impacted by sexual violence and deserve access and inclusion in SAAM
- Sexual violence and COVID-19 are public health issues that can be minimized with overlapping prevention efforts
- Refer to NSVRC's Resources for COVID-19 Response
- Make connections between COVID-19 and its impact on shared risk and protective factors.