

Hope, Build, Thrive Campaign

In 2026, our Annual Conference will serve as a cornerstone of Hope, Build, Thrive—a yearlong campaign focused on nurturing resilience, strengthening networks, and driving bold, collective action to end sexual violence.

Hope, Build, Thrive speaks to more than a single moment; it reflects an ongoing movement. Hope is the spark that keeps us grounded in possibility. Build represents the shared labor of creating systems rooted in justice, care, and community. Thrive is our vision for a future where survivors and communities not only heal, but flourish.

This year's theme calls on advocates, service providers, survivors, and community partners to reimagine what is possible when we move forward together. We're not just responding to harm—we're creating a foundation for lasting change.

Throughout 2026, this campaign will shape our Sexual Assault Awareness Month efforts, Advocacy Day, our Annual Conference, and various other programming and resources we'll offer. Our goal is to weave a consistent message of empowerment and connection that carries across the entire year and beyond.

(Conference Details)

The 2026 OAESV Annual Conference will take place on June 23rd and 24th, 2026. This will be an in-person event in Columbus, Ohio with no virtual opportunity planned. However, conference attendees will receive recordings of most of the conference keynotes and sessions.

This year's Annual Conference is more than a gathering—it's a space to bring hope into action, build powerful connections, and envision thriving futures for survivors and communities. Rooted in our 2026 theme Hope, Build, Thrive, the conference centers the lived experiences and leadership of survivors, advocates, preventionists, nurses, law enforcement, medical professionals, mental health providers, legal advocates, educators, and other allied partners who are part of the collective work to end sexual violence. We recognize that meaningful change requires the commitment and collaboration of many, from those who provide direct support to those who shape systems and policy.

Across two inspiring days, participants will engage in dynamic workshops, thought-provoking keynote sessions, and intentional spaces for care and connection. It's an opportunity to share what's working, imagine what's next, and strengthen the collective energy of this movement.

While the theme resonates throughout the year, the Annual Conference is where it all comes together: a space to celebrate progress, challenge systems, and shape what thriving truly looks like for survivors and communities.

 Save the dates for two days of powerful conversations, meaningful collaboration, and shared vision. Registration details will be available in early 2026 via email, social media, and at oaesv.org/conference.

(Requests for Proposal Details)

For more information about the process or to submit your proposal, please visit the submission form at oaesv.org/2026ConferenceProposals. **Submission window closes Sunday, January 11, 2026 at 11:59 pm EST. We will not be accepting late submissions.**

For our 2026 conference, we are putting out two requests for proposals

1. Proposals for Educational Workshops

We are looking for **90-minute** educational workshop proposals in the following categories:

- Prevention
- Intervention/Advocacy
- Coordinated Community Responses
- Leadership
- Self-Care (individual, institutional, or community)

Workshops that address the following topics are strongly encouraged:

- Grant management, operations, and/or communications
- Community-level prevention
- Sustainable leadership and thriving organizations
- Unexpected community partnerships
- Legal representation of survivors of sexual violence
- Advancing Forensic Nursing Practice

2. Proposals for Community Resource Groups

We are looking for **60-minute** Community Resource Group proposals.

What are Community Resource Groups?

Community Resource Groups (CRGs) are sessions provided at our conference for those with shared roles, identities or work experiences to be in community with one another. CRGs will be informal spaces to provide a sense of connection and support. These groups may engage in discussion, self-care, collective care, collective action and advocacy to promote change and address unique dynamics. The concept is flexible and can be applied to a wide range of contexts where people unite around shared interests or goals.

The role of the CRG Facilitator is to introduce the space, be a point person to welcome group members, set community agreements, guide the conversation, and ensure emotional safety of participants. Facilitators will have an OAESV staff member available for support as needed.

We welcome proposals that demonstrate the following characteristics:

- Supportive of the overall conference theme
- Addressing innovative or advanced concepts related to practice
- Inclusive of a variety of audiences, communities, and perspectives
- Promoting community collaboration and partnerships
- Reflective of the needs of adult learners (interactive workshop, hands-on activities, skills-based)

A note to potential presenters: We are committed to building a conference that highlights many perspectives and lived experiences. Potential presenters may come from a background less traditional to our field of work, and that's okay. We would strongly encourage you to apply.