

2025 ANNUAL REPORT



RAPE CRISIS CENTERS IN OHIO

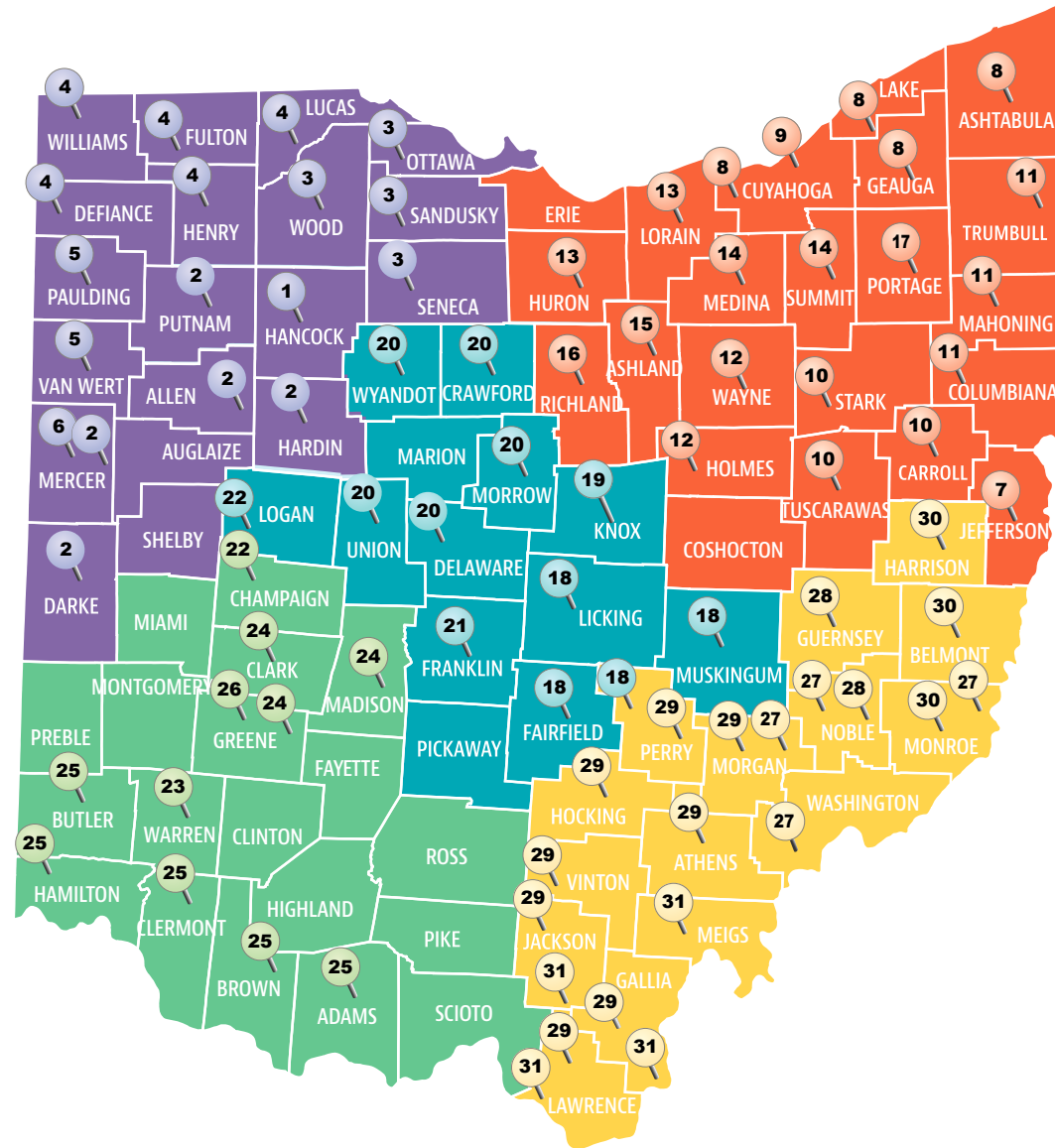
oaesv.org

NORTHWEST REGION

- 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

NORTHEAST REGION

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



CENTRAL REGION

- 18 Family Health Services of East Central Ohio
- 19 New Directions
- 20 Sexual Assault & Victim Services at Helpline
- 21 Sexual Assault Response Network of Central Ohio (SARNCO)
- 22 TCN Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Crisis Center

SOUTHWEST REGION

- 22 TCN Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Crisis Center
- 23 SAFE on Main
- 24 Project Woman
- 25 Women Helping Women
- 26 Family Violence Prevention Center

SOUTHEAST REGION

- 27 Eve, Inc.
- 28 Haven of Hope
- 29 Survivor Advocacy Outreach Program
- 30 Tri-County Help Center Rape Crisis Program
- 31 Square One

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Rape crisis programs are identified in Ohio as providing a full continuum of services, including hotlines, victim advocacy, and support services from the onset of the need for services through the completion of healing, to survivors and co-survivors of sexual violence. To learn more about standards of service and to obtain contact information for rape crisis programs in Ohio, visit www.oaesv.org.

This publication was supported by the Rape Crisis Trust Fund, administered by the Ohio Attorney General's Office. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Ohio Attorney General's Office.

Map up-to-date as of February 22, 2026. For the most updated version, please always visit oaesv.org/Map.



Dear Survivors, Allies, Advocates, and Change-Makers,

2025 was a year of Voices of Change.

Not the kind of change that is comfortable—but the kind that is courageous. Across our nation, communities carried deep fatigue, uncertainty, and division. Systems felt strained. The nonprofit sector continued to face shifting priorities and real resource challenges. Yet even in the midst of all that, one truth remained: **survivors still needed us.**

Survivors needed safety.
Survivors needed advocacy.
Survivors needed systems that respond with dignity, not doubt.
Survivors still needed people who would show up—again and again—with integrity and love.

At OAESV, we did not allow the climate of 2025 to shift our identity or soften our conviction. We stayed grounded in our mission and guided by survivors. Because **Voices of Change** is not a slogan—it is what happens when we refuse silence, confront harmful norms, and build systems rooted in justice and healing.

Because we know this truth:

When survivors speak, systems must listen.

When advocates persist, culture begins to shift.

When coalitions organize, policy can change.

When prevention work is rooted in community, future harm can be interrupted.

2025 Impact Highlights

The work we do is not symbolic. It is not theoretical. It is not performative.
It is real.
It is measurable.
It is life-changing.

This year, OAESV strengthened the statewide movement through coalition leadership, training, prevention, technical assistance, and systems improvement. Together, we achieved:

- **102 trainings and events** delivered across Ohio
- **195 technical assistance engagements** supporting and strengthening local programs
- **109 resources published** to equip the field with survivor-centered tools and guidance
- **581 meetings to improve systems**—because real change happens where decisions are made
- **175 attendees at Annual Conference**, expanding learning and strengthening statewide collaboration
- **357 attendees at Advocacy Day**, demonstrating power, unity, and commitment to survivors

Behind every number is a person, a story, a moment of courage, a program, and a community moving closer to safety and accountability. This is what Voices of Change looks like: **consistent action, survivor-centered practice, and collective courage.**

The Reality We Refuse to Ignore

Let me be honest: 2025 required endurance.

There were moments that reminded us how fragile survivor resources can be when funding shifts and systems move slowly. There were moments when the weight of trauma—in our communities and within our systems—felt relentless. There were moments when we had to navigate barriers that were not only operational, but deeply human.

But we did not retreat. Because at OAESV, there is no confusion about who we are.

We are survivor-centered.
We are intentional.
We are mission-driven.

And if a system tries to silence survivors, we amplify them.
If a policy threatens survivor access, we mobilize.
If harmful norms persist, we confront them.
If programs need support, we show up.

Gratitude That Runs Deep

To our staff—thank you for leading with excellence, compassion, and integrity. To our Board—thank you for your steady governance and commitment during a year of transition and complexity. To our funders, partners, donors, and allies—thank you for supporting survivors through sustained investment, not seasonal attention.

Our Call to Action

If 2025 taught us anything, it is that sexual violence does not pause in hard times—and neither can we. I invite every reader to:

- **Use your voice** for survivor-centered policy and prevention
- **Stay engaged** by showing up, advocating, and mobilizing your networks
- **Invest in the work**—because impact requires capacity
- **Refuse silence**—because silence is where harm thrives

Entering 2026: Hope, Build, Thrive.

As we step into 2026, we do so carrying the strength of everything 2025 demanded of us, and with tested hope and clear vision:

HOPE—because our mission is bigger than any climate. Because this movement belongs to those who refuse despair.

BUILD—because survivor-centered systems must be designed with intention.

THRIVE—because sustainable justice work is essential for survivors and those who serve them. Thank you for being part of the Voices of Change. Thank you for believing survivors.

Thank you for carrying this mission forward with us. Together, we are building something powerful, lasting, and just.

With deep gratitude and unwavering commitment,

Rosa Beltré
President & CEO
Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence (OAESV)



To the OAESV Community,

Thank you for all you accomplished in 2025. Thank you for your energy, passion, and unwavering commitment to reimagining and building a state liberated from all forms of sexual violence. Despite challenges of every shape and size this past year, OAESV continued to secure critical funding and membership growth and provide training and support services to ensure survivors feel understood, supported, and empowered on their healing journeys. OAESV also deepened and expanded its network of rape crisis centers and allied organizations so that every survivor in Ohio has a safe person, place, and community to turn to for support.

I am honored to serve as President of the OAESV Board of Directors in 2026 and to support the inspiring, world-building work that OAESV does each day. Before stepping into this role in August 2025, I had the privilege of serving as a Board Member for three and a half years—learning the ins and outs of OAESV as both an advocacy organization and a bustling workplace where staff, partners, volunteers, and community members live out our mission and values. It is an honor to now lead OAESV in governance and uphold strong fiscal, legal, and ethical oversight. In 2025, our Board continued to grow with a focus on diversity in experience, skillset, and geography to better serve communities across Ohio. Our Board believes deeply in OAESV and is committed to governing with integrity.

As 2026 unfolds with both anticipated and unexpected opportunities, OAESV will continue to face challenges head-on, guided by our mission and values. We ask you to stand with us—sharing your time, talents, and treasures in the fight to end sexual violence in Ohio. Your support and your voice propel us forward.

In solidarity,

Lysette M. Roman, JD
President, OAESV Board of Directors



Serving OAESV during a year of constant change has reinforced something I've always believed about this organization: its strength is not tied to calm conditions, but to its ability to remain steady when the world is anything but.

This past year has required focus, adaptability, and resolve. As communities face increasing uncertainty, OAESV has continued to lead with clarity, grounded in its mission, supported by strong governance, and guided by a Board committed to continuity, accountability, and long-term stewardship. Resilience, in this context, is not reactive. It is built through sound systems, thoughtful leadership, and a shared responsibility to survivors and those who serve them.

Momentum does not always come from big moments. Often, it comes from showing up, strengthening partnerships, refining processes, and making decisions that balance immediate urgency with long-term impact. Over the last year, OAESV has done exactly that, continuing to serve survivors, keep programs running, and move the organization forward, steadily, intentionally, and with purpose.

I remain deeply grateful to the staff who carried this mission forward every day, especially during moments of uncertainty, to the Board members who led with integrity and resolve, and to the supporters and programs who stood with OAESV when their commitment mattered most.

OAESV continues to advance, not because the world has slowed down, but because its commitment to survivors and communities across Ohio remains unwavering. That is resilience. And that is momentum worth sustaining.

Jennifer Karpus-Romain
Secretary; Board Recruitment & Development Chair;
Former President
OAESV Board of Directors



LETTERS FROM THE BOARD



ABOUT OAESV

OUR MISSION

As Ohio's statewide coalition, OAESV advocates for comprehensive responses and rape crisis services for survivors and empowers 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



INTERN HIGHLIGHT

“During my time at OAESV, I have been impacted by both the people and the mission I hold so closely to my heart. My education, passion, and appreciation for this work have only grown because of this experience, and that is due to the community OAESV builds every day. I feel encouraged to keep doing my part to end sexual violence, and I am confident the professional skills I've learned here will effectively prepare me for my future career.”

Caitlin O'Brien, Resource & Communications Intern

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OAESV volunteers and interns worked on at least 16 impactful projects throughout 2025. We certainly could not do this work without them. **THANK YOU!**

OAESV 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.

Board members who served in 2025:

- Isaac Báez, M.P.H., C.D.E.
- Catherine Bous, MSW
- Jamahal C. Boyd
- Jennifer Disco
- Jamie Greenwolf
- Amina Hall
- Jennifer Karpus-Romain
- Ashley Kline, LPCC
- Kori Koschalk-Newmister
- Dr. Rachel Pope
- Lysette M. Roman, JD
- Lee Ann Schwope
- Jamie Small, PhD
- Chris Thompson

OUR TEAMS:

- Core Leadership
- Advocacy & Legal Services
- Coordinated Community Responses
- Finance
- Grants & Sustainability
- Operations
- Prevention
- Public Policy
- Resources & Communications
- Training & Membership

A Reflection from the Leadership Team:

“What a year 2025 turned out to be. We are so proud of how our team led through challenges and unknowns. This year reminded us of the importance of a people first mindset. We centered trauma-informed practices every step of the way, with clear, transparent, and honest communication, and by sharing information as soon as we received it.

“

We could not carry out our mission without every single person on staff. Thank you for your trust, even in moments when we were still finding our footing. Because of your care, your resilience, and your commitment, our team is stronger for everything we experienced this year.”

With gratitude,

Shandra Ingram
Vice President of Operations, OAESV



MEET OUR STAFF



Lana Baird
Director of Finance
(through 6/2025)



Rosa Beltré
President & Chief
Executive Officer



Caitlyn Benzo
LAV Attorney



Caroline Bisang
Legal Services Specialist



Caitlin Burke
Senior Director of
Prevention & Impact



Jenn Eidemiller
Grants, Resources, &
Communications Manager



Sarah Ferrato
Manager of Sexual Violence
Prevention & Public Health
Initiatives (through 2/2025)



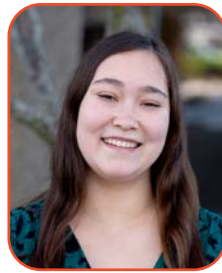
Elliott Fullenkamp
Manager of Training &
Technical Assistance



Emily Gemar
Director of Public Policy
& Communications



Becca Getson
Director of Advocacy &
Legal Services



Rachel Hiller
Program Coordinator



Emily Hiner
Prevention Coordinator



Jayvon Howard
Manager of Engaging
Men Initiatives



Laurie Hurley
Resource & Engagement
Manager



Shandra Ingram
Vice President of
Operations



Nicole
Director of Coordinated
Community Responses



Natasha Larson
Director of Training &
Member Engagement



Shelby Lieber
Survivor Coordinator



Damarita Lopez-Wilcox
Administrative &
Operations Coordinator



Meg McKinney
Coordinator of
Community Responses



Licy Monterroso
Administration &
Finance Specialist



Yasmin Ponce-Lopez
Coalition Services
Administrator



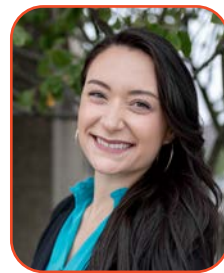
Tammy Robertson
Statewide Director of
Forensic Nursing



Stephanie B. Scalise
Managing LAV Attorney



Kali Sheaffer
Director of Finance



Taylr Ucker-Lauderman
Chief Engagement
Officer



Jazmin Vera
Housing & Economic
Empowerment
Manager



Nicole Williams
Director of Grant
Management & Sustainability
(through 9/2025)

To Our Financial Supporters

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.

OUR 2025 FUNDERS:

- Johns Hopkins University, Bloomberg American Health Initiative
- Centers for Disease Control & Prevention
- The George Gund Foundation
- Office for Victims of Crime
- Office on Violence Against Women
- Ohio Attorney General's Office
- Ohio Department of Health
- Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services

84¢

of every dollar
went directly to ensuring
high-quality services
for survivors and Ohio
communities.

FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME:

Government Grants	\$4,582,734.62
Foundations	\$100,500.00
Contracts	\$15,372.73
In Kind	\$30,808.90
Donations	\$26,759.08
Memberships	\$27,950.00
Registrations	\$31,195.00
Interest	\$37,162.79
Other	\$5,407.64

TOTAL \$4,857,890.76

EXPENSES:

Program Services	\$4,103,707.11
M & G	\$504,954.92
Development	\$93,550.89

TOTAL \$4,702,212.93

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

This publication was supported by Rape Crisis Funding awarded by the Ohio Governor's office, administered by the Ohio Attorney General's Office. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Governor or the Ohio Attorney General's office.

OAESV is a membership-based organization that relies on the support of organizations and individuals throughout Ohio. As a coalition, we build bridges between direct service providers and allies to strengthen our shared goal of eliminating sexual violence in Ohio. Annual membership is open to public and private organizations, government entities, and individuals. OAESV strives for a broad, diverse, and multi-disciplinary membership.

134 Members

including 31 Qualified Rape Crisis Programs



Meetings, Collaboration, & Field Improvement

In 2025, OAESV held regular meetings and supported collaborative efforts that brought partners together to strengthen coordination and improve the effectiveness of anti-sexual violence efforts across Ohio. These activities supported information-sharing, alignment across systems, and collaborative problem-solving, contributing to stronger and more responsive services statewide.

Meetings and collaborative activities included leadership meetings, policy-focused calls, campus-based collaboration, coordinated community response meetings, project-specific interagency discussions, and working groups focused on addressing service challenges and identifying practical improvements.

In addition to ongoing meetings, collaborative efforts in 2025 supported shared learning and capacity-building through training and professional development activities, research-informed projects drawing on field data and practitioner input, peer networking and coordination, and strategic reactivation of collaborative efforts to strengthen engagement and effectiveness.

Participants represented a broad cross-section of the field, including sexual violence programs, educational institutions, law enforcement, social workers, state and national coalitions, advocacy organizations, government agencies, interagency working groups, and sexual assault forensic nurse examiners.



In total, OAESV Convened 581 Meetings

in 2025 to support system coordination and strengthen responses to sexual violence across Ohio.

CCRT/SART-Focused Initiatives

In 2025, OAESV supported Sexual Assault Response Teams (SARTs) and Coordinated Community Response Teams (CCRTs) across Ohio through sustained collaboration, training, and technical assistance. This work focused on strengthening coordination among multidisciplinary partners, supporting consistent application of best practices, and responding to emerging needs across local communities.

OAESV facilitated monthly statewide collaboration meetings that brought together SART partners and forensic nursing professionals to strengthen connection, share expertise, and support peer learning. These meetings included the development of a mentorship model for forensic nurses to support professional growth, knowledge-sharing, and continuity of practice across the state.

To support law enforcement and multidisciplinary partners, OAESV published and distributed 18 new sexual assault kit (SA Kit) resources statewide, providing materials to every law enforcement agency in Ohio – nearly 1,000 agencies. Recipients reported strong demand for these tools, with many requesting additional copies for broader distribution. The SA Kit resources included multilingual materials on evidence timelines and kit tracking, a comprehensive investigation resource guide with checklists, recorded webinars, and supplemental trauma-informed resources designed to support effective and survivor-centered response.

In addition, OAESV expanded access to professional learning by providing a webinar subscription to law enforcement agencies throughout the state for End Violence Against Women International. OAESV also coordinated peer-to-peer law enforcement training and technical assistance, and responded to SART partner requests related to training, public awareness, and various individualized needs.

Throughout the year, OAESV advanced efforts to update Ohio's statewide SART model—last revised in 2014—to reflect current best practices, incorporate practical tools and templates, highlight effective local approaches, and expand guidance for team development and collaboration. OAESV also convened timely connection spaces during periods of uncertainty to support communication, problem-solving, and continuity across teams.

103 instances of CCRT/SART-focused technical assistance

27 CCRT/SART technical assistance resources created and shared

9 CCRT/SART trainings with 210 total attendees

Examples: Connection Spaces, CCRT at Training Institute, Beyond the Horizon: Triumphs and Trials of Rural Survivors at OAESV Annual Conference, Advocacy and Responding to the Hospital, Forensic Nursing Network In-Service Training



MEMBER-FOCUSED ENGAGEMENT & SUPPORT

Program Visits

As the statewide coalition, OAESV maintains the Core Standards, which is a document that outlines the service standards for rape crisis services and prevention in Ohio. Every two years, OAESV conducts in-person program visits to current Qualified Ohio Rape Crisis Centers to evaluate how well these centers implement the Core Standards, to build relationships, and identify training needs. This process helps determine which programs deliver strong services or need more support and highlights regional gaps. These standards also inform whether a program is ready to become a new or developing Qualified Ohio Rape Crisis Center and is eligible to apply for Ohio Rape Crisis Trust Funding.

Feedback from this year's program visits was overwhelmingly positive, providing valuable insights into the needs of sexual assault advocates and survivors. The collected data will inform future training and technical assistance initiatives, with a specific focus on enhancing accessibility and sustainability across dual programs, thereby ensuring trauma-informed care for all survivors.

In 2025, our staff traveled over **10,000 miles across Ohio** to complete program visits

Professional Development Scholarships

over **159** scholarships provided nearly **\$200,000** in monetary support to **over 5** events including:

- Two Days in May hosted by the Ohio Attorney General's Office
- National Organization for Victim Advocacy Annual Conference
- National Sexual Assault Conference
- International Association of Forensic Nursing (IAFN) Conference
- IAFN Ohio Chapter Conference

Collective Calls

Collective Calls are monthly gatherings that strengthen connection, shared learning, and community among those working to end sexual violence across Ohio. With a rotating focus, these sessions support members and other partners through skill-building, peer exchange, and opportunities to connect across roles and regions.

Collective Calls include:

In-Service Trainings

Members-only skill-building sessions focused on emerging practices and shared learning.

Program Spotlights

Peer learning spaces where member programs share projects and receive feedback.

Connection Spaces

Open, facilitated conversations that build community across roles and regions.

Technical Assistance

We are committed to providing consistent, best-practice responses to sexual violence and supporting survivors through high-quality care. It is both our privilege and responsibility to offer technical assistance to our members. Whether through email or in person at one of the state's rape crisis centers, OAESV staff worked closely with programs to overcome specific challenges, all with the goal of enhancing services for survivors and the communities served.

“I really love these little meetings. I truly feel so privileged to do this work with others who care so much for the cause and for each other.”

This year's outcomes:

- OAESV provided **31** Program Visits with Qualified Ohio Rape Crisis Centers and 1 visit with a new/developing rape crisis center (two additional visits took place in December 2024)
- **6** programs exceeded standards
- **21** programs met standards
- **4** programs were approaching standards

Program strengths:

- Survivor-centered programs with an emphasis on trauma-informed services
- Creative solutions to reduce barriers for survivors accessing services
- High commitment to community coordination and collaboration
- Community outreach and strong partnerships to increase awareness

Focus areas to increase the effectiveness of rape crisis services in Ohio:

- Increasing cultural responsiveness
- Enhancing accessibility
- Strengthening sexual violence services at dual programs
- Enhancing systems-based advocacy
- Increasing statewide capacity for prevention programming

Additionally, OAESV has reached out to counties lacking sexual assault services to assess potential providers. This year, OAESV visited two newly established Qualified Ohio Rape Crisis Centers and engaged a domestic violence program to develop a sexual assault-specific hotline and advocacy services. Through these efforts, OAESV has maintained and expanded sexual assault services statewide.

195 instances of Technical Assistance provided in total

Technical assistance provided to:

- 77** RCCs
- 9** Affiliate member organizations
- 6** Individual members
- 3** Elected officials
- 3** Survivors
- 8** Healthcare workers
- 24** SANE/Forensic Examiner
- 2** University/College faculty or staff
- 2** Military personnel
- 2** Law enforcement
- 3** Prosecutor
- 2** Attorney
- 54** Additional partners or contacts

TRAINING & EVENTS

3,801
attendees
across
102
trainings and
events statewide



Natasha Larson, OAESV's Director of Training & Member Engagement, kicked off day one of our Self-Care Retreat with opening remarks.

TRAINING, CONNECTION, AND COLLECTIVE POWER

Equipping professionals and communities across Ohio to prevent and respond to sexual violence.

Every year, we provide trainings and events for victim service professionals, allied professionals, and the public on a wide range of topics related to the prevention of and response to sexual violence. Our offerings are relevant, forward-thinking, timely, and focused on centering the voices and lived experiences of survivors in Ohio.

329 hours of training



Retreat attendees learned the art of loom weaving as a method to process grief.

MEMBERS ONLY

Leading With Purpose

leadership development in the nonprofit sector

A comprehensive leadership series designed to equip emerging and current nonprofit leaders with the essential skills and knowledge to lead with confidence, clarity, and impact.



Self-Care Retreat

Gathering Power. Summoning Care.

This work is both deeply meaningful and deeply demanding. This retreat created space for collective healing. Over two days, advocates gathered to rest, reconnect, and remind one another that we are not alone in this movement.

2-day retreat at Salt Fork Lodge & Conference Center

45 advocates supported

Workshops included:

- Using Drums to Move Through the Emotions
- Processing Grief
- The Sound of Surrender: A Restorative Sound Bath Experience

“This was truly a self-care retreat. The discussions and workshops centered around the person and what we each may need—or not need—in that moment. It allowed us to disconnect from work and focus on ourselves.”

In 2025, OAESV collaborated with other organizations across the state to support leadership development within Ohio's anti-violence field. These collaborations were an investment in connection, collaboration, and professional growth. Through coordinated learning opportunities and peer engagement, participants strengthened leadership skills, expanded professional networks, and enhanced their capacity to support survivors and communities.

At a 2025 leadership development summit, **From Connection to Leadership**, excellence and innovation within the movement were highlighted. **Jazmin Vera** was named the **2025 Rising Star** for her leadership in advancing statewide housing initiatives at OAESV, expanding access to trauma-informed services for survivors across Ohio. **Audrey Walker** received the **Malina L. Gavins Award** in recognition of her long-standing commitment and sustained service to the anti-violence field.

Affirming Advocacy – Embracing Care for All provided participants with comprehensive and innovative strategies for advocacy, outreach, and survivor empowerment, particularly in communities and organizations that are often underserved. The training emphasized adaptable, survivor-centered approaches that enhance access to services, promote safety, and support effective responses across diverse community contexts.



In 2025, our Annual Conference was an integral part of our Voices of Change campaign—a yearlong initiative to uplift survivors, strengthen collaboration, and drive meaningful action. Our conference emphasizes the strength and unity found in collaboration and collective action. It provided a dedicated space to speak up and take actionable steps in our communities to create safer, more supportive spaces for survivors and to end sexual violence at its roots. At its heart, Voices of Change centered the needs and stories of survivors and the people who work on the front lines, recognizing that their voices hold the wisdom and guidance necessary for meaningful change.

June 24–26
 Quest Conference Center
 Westerville, Ohio



“I always leave feeling re-inspired and ready to get back to my work.”



7 awards

- Excellence in Advocacy: **Charla Lauth**
- Excellence in Community Response: **Madeline Bumgarner**
- Progressive Prevention: **Felicia Robinson**
- Excellence in Legal Services: **Andrea Gonzalez-Burton**
- Unsung Hero Award: **Debbie Brownlee**
- Visionary Voice Award: **in memory of Arissa Shupe**

12 sponsors



**USE YOUR VOICE
 LISTEN TO OTHERS
 MAKE CHANGE**

8 community resource groups and learning sessions

175 attendees

3 plenary sessions:

- Restorative Justice for Sexual Harm: Why I Fought for a Circle, Not a Courtroom
- Resilience in Action: Human-Centered Strategies for Navigating Collective Trauma
- Voices Unbroken: Survivor Stories of Strength Panel

93%

of attendees said that after attending OAESV’s Annual Conference, they **can identify at least one innovate prevention method**

15 workshops

including a timely, members-only workshop on navigating digital spaces with **Tonjie Reese**

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

PREVENTION & PUBLIC HEALTH



Prevention 201 Immersion: was an in-depth, two-day training designed to elevate the understanding and application of 201 level prevention strategies. These trainings were built upon the foundational knowledge of primary prevention and introduced topics that can be used as we enter into a modern era of prevention. This was in person, which also provided opportunities to be in community with other prevention practitioners across the state, with rest and play integrated. This was a Members Only opportunity.

“I felt like I really walked away with a fresh perspective.”

OAESV’s President & CEO, Rosa Beltré, and Senior Director of Prevention & Impact, Caitlin Burke, attended the New Mexico Sexual Assault Conference, where Rosa was a keynote speaker.

DATA COLLECTION SYSTEM PROJECT PHASE TWO

In 2024, OAESV launched a comprehensive multi-phase initiative to transform how rape crisis centers across Ohio collect, manage, and report data about sexual violence. This ambitious project recognizes that better data leads to improved services for survivors and stronger advocacy for systemic change.

Phase One:

- Held listening sessions with Ohio rape crisis centers, funders, and survivors to inform the project
- Researched software options and a cost-benefit analysis of solutions to improve data collection
- Created a centralized location for sexual violence services data
- Generate statewide reports

Moving forward, OAESV will concentrate on increasing the capacity of Ohio rape crisis centers to improve their sexual violence data collection. OAESV plans to use an annual survey to gather Ohio sexual violence data, rather than aiming to onboard all RCCs to one singular tool like Vela Direct. The goal is to create annual reports with aggregated data that shows the number of survivors served by Ohio rape crisis centers. This data will inform statewide public policy and funding advocacy work while helping Ohio rape crisis centers.

Phase Two: implementation and testing of the project’s vision.

Beginning in early 2025, OAESV and three Ohio rape crisis centers agreed to pilot Vela Direct for six months.

- OAESV introduced and conducted demonstrations of Vela Direct to Ohio rape crisis centers.
- OAESV covered the upfront costs and the first year’s costs of the pilot, provided supportive onboarding training with Vela, and hosted monthly office hours for ongoing support.
- Ubuntu Research & Evaluation conducted interviews with programs after six months to assess the impact of the software on sexual violence data collection.



ADVOCACY SERVICES & ENGAGEMENT WITH SURVIVORS

OAESV provides many services directly to survivors. These include emotional support, providing information about local services, court accompaniment, housing support, and more.

- In 2025, we added 5 new members to our Survivor Empowerment Advisory Council. They spoke at a panel during our Annual Conference; presented at our bi-annual Training Institute for Advocates; created a fact sheet on securing mental health providers; attended a listening session with OCJS to inform the STOP/VAWA implementation plan for Ohio; and more.

71 survivors served through our advocacy program with **310** hours of direct service

- Rachel Ramirez (ODVN) and OAESV’s Survivor Coordinator Shelby Lieber presented on strangulation and traumatic brain injury for the U.S. Navy
- We continued our Survivor Storytelling project, officially launching the stories for advocate-use in a trauma-informed, survivor-centered way. In collaboration with OAESV and the storytellers, Dr. Ngozi Oparah created a discussion guide to go along with the stories. The guide will launch in 2026.

LEGAL SERVICES

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.

(A few of our) 2025 Highlights:

The Legal Team...

- provided criminal justice advocacy for a survivor who had been waiting for three years for her case to finally come to trial. She now works for a law firm in Columbus that specializes in providing civil representation to other survivors, and she's thinking about going to law school.
- helped a teen survivor change her last name and be adopted, giving her a life-long tie to a caring and supportive father.
- used a relatively new law that allows human trafficking survivors to get a fresh start. Over the course of seven months and three different trials, the team was successful. The survivor now works as a full-time advocate, helping others struggling with addiction and speaking to school groups throughout the state.

Attorneys Caitlyn Benzo and Stephanie Scalise became founding members of the Ohio Victim Services Bar Association, creating a statewide professional organization dedicated to mentoring new lawyers to provide services to survivors, educating attorneys on trauma-informed best practices, and advocating for more survivor-centered legal systems.

30 survivors were provided over **32** hours of free legal consultations during virtual office hours

767.5 hours of free legal service saving survivors **\$208,295** worth of legal work

12 survivors were provided legal representation by VOCA-Funded Panel Attorneys

23 hours of legal training provided to other professionals

18 clients represented for long-term representation



MEANINGFUL ACCESS HOUSING PROGRAM

Since our short-term housing program launched three years ago, it has developed in such a thoughtful, survivor-centered way, housed survivors and promoted healing, and gained national spotlight as a best-practice model. In 2025, we wrapped up the first cycle of our Transitional Housing program, providing longer-term support for survivors. OAESV also provided items for basic needs and school supplies, as well as stopgap food assistance during the government shut down.



OAESV's Meaningful Access Housing Program is also being sought out for national technical assistance.

We published an evaluation report on our program, showing the need and efficacy of sexual violence housing services in Ohio.

- 9** survivors served
- 15** children served
- 2** other dependents served
- 9,130** total nights of shelter

Total money paid toward rent in 2025: **\$110,733**

Find the report at oaesv.org/mahp.

“You just don't know that you may have saved my life in all kinds of ways...”
- housing program client

OAESV POLICY & ADVOCACY YEAR IN REVIEW

In 2025, OAESV strengthened survivor-centered policy, protected critical funding for rape crisis programs, and elevated survivor voices at the Statehouse and within statewide systems.

Our Annual Advocacy Day brings together community members from across Ohio to collectively advocate for survivors. In 2025, we had **357** attendees, held **93** legislative meetings, and welcomed **9** inspiring speakers.

Key Priorities Advanced

- Secured continued funding for rape crisis centers in Ohio at \$15 million per fiscal year in the Ohio Operating Budget.
- Advanced legislation strengthening survivor rights and access to services.
- Opposed harmful bills that would increase barriers to reporting or reduce prevention capacity.



Legislative Engagement

54 testimonies provided & coordinated by OAESV

96 lawmakers engaged

11 action alerts sent

846 advocates mobilized



Strengthening Statewide Coalitions & Elevating Survivor Voices

OAESV worked with rape crisis centers, state agencies, legislators, universities, legal advocates, and survivor leaders to advance shared policy goals.

46 partner organizations engaged in statewide advocacy

785 advocates & allies trained in policy and systems advocacy

“Thank you [the OAESV public policy team] for your help and the opportunity to testify at the Statehouse. It was very empowering to share my story as a survivor.”

- Ohio survivor

OAESV also ensured survivors were centered in all advocacy efforts. The public policy team engaged survivors throughout the state for survivor-informed policy analysis of the bills we tracked. We also uplifted lived experience experts in testimony, briefings, and coalition work.



“I have seen [Advocacy Day] grow... and it's great each year. We attend other advocacy days that do not come close to the preparation and materials [OAESV] provides. Thank you to Emily and the team at OAESV.”

- 2025 OAESV Advocacy Day attendee

TELLING THE OAESV STORY

From newsletters and fact sheets to social media, podcasts, and in-depth reports, we share timely, accessible resources that support survivors and the professionals working alongside them.

Every post, publication, and press mention helps tell a larger story: that collaboration, credible information, and public awareness are essential to preventing sexual violence and supporting healing. Through these efforts, we continue working toward our shared vision—an Ohio free from sexual violence.

CREATING TOOLS FOR CHANGE

- 109** total resources published, including
 - 4 fact sheets | 3 brochures | 8 reports
 - 11 tip sheets | 6 toolkits
- 28** newsletters sent
- 7** blog posts written

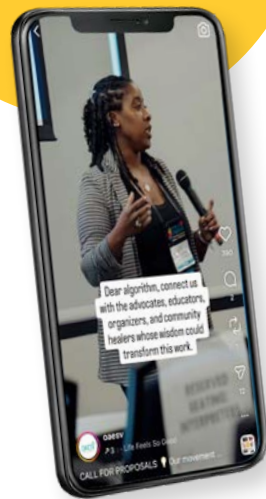


REACHING COMMUNITIES ACROSS OHIO & BEYOND

Every click, share, and download represents someone seeking information, support, or change.

Our profiles were **viewed 13,082** times

Our content was liked, shared, saved, or reposted **17,586** times across **Facebook** and **Instagram**



People accessed information and resources through our **website**

80,439 times

27,409

individual users **visited oaesv.org**

People viewed our **social media** messaging

454,354 times **increasing** our reach by **123%**

SHAPING THE PUBLIC CONVERSATION

Our work continues to be recognized as a trusted voice in conversations about sexual violence, prevention, and survivor support.

OAESV was featured or mentioned **90** times in print, digital, or broadcast news.

Top News Coverage Topics

- Effects of federal funding cuts on victim services
- Child sexual abuse prevention
- Custody laws and their connection to sexual violence
- Mental health for minors
- Unsolved rape cases



Teal Talk Podcast

Extending Our Reach Through Audio

152 podcast subscribers

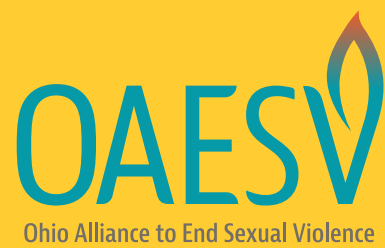
689 episode listens, averaging **57** listens per month

increase of **45** followers and **14** listens per month


Top episodes of 2025:

- Supporting Survivors of Human Trafficking Beyond the Courtroom with Emily Dunlap of Advocating Opportunity
- A Conversation on Statewide Advocacy with Shelby Lieber of OAESV





6111 Oak Tree Blvd • Suite 140 • Independence, OH 44131
216-658-1381 • 888-886-8388 • info@oaesv.org

  @oaesv •  Ohio Alliance to End Sexual Violence

oaesv.org