



AB 176 TRAINING OF TRAINERS
SEXUAL VIOLENCE ADVOCACY

**IMPACT
STATEMENT**

PROJECT STATEMENT

Working with survivors of sexual violence is a serious undertaking. Thus, it's important to invest in building a comprehensive program that includes a broad training program to successfully orient staff and volunteers to the organization, to the survivors and to the roles they'll be performing.



PROJECT OVERVIEW

The focus of our training efforts were in rural communities as they are the least served in terms of sexual violence.

Rural Programs frequently struggle with recruiting, training and retaining staff volunteers given limited staffing and the priority given to service delivery.

NCEDSV created Sexual Assault Advocacy Training see attachment A for details) to include:

- » Core on-line training modules
- » Virtual advanced information training sessions (nine 4-hour sessions)
- » A Volunteer Toolkit and Resource Handbook to guide community-based domestic and sexual violence advocacy programs to create and improve their own volunteer programs.
- » On-going technical assistance.

PARTICIPANTS

9 Advocates from the following programs:

- » Nevada Outreach Training Organization, Pahrump: Serving Nye County – 3 participants
- » Domestic Violence Intervention, Fallon: Serving Churchill and Lyon Counties – 3 participants
- » DVI Pershing County, Lovelock: Serving Pershing County – 1 participant
- » Consolidated Agencies for Human Services, Hawthorne: Serving Mineral County – 1 participant

- » Committee Against Domestic Violence: Harbor House, Elko: Serving Elko, Eureka, and White Pine Counties – 1 participant

In addition:

- » 5 Department of Corrections support staff from the facilities of Ely State Prison, Lovelock Correctional Center, and Florence McClure Women’s Correctional Center were included in the pilot training staff to accommodate their training requirement under PREA.

IMPACT

AB 176 funding has created a training program that will be available well beyond the FY 20 & 21 funding years.

Overall feedback from participant evaluation forms included the following responses:

01

Objectives being met - YES

02

Zoom platform conducive to learning - YES

03

Did the pace of the training fit the time frame allowed? - YES

04

Enhanced my advocacy skills to support - YES

05

I have gained relevant & valuable knowledge, skills, and/or abilities - YES

06

Please rate the value of the subject matter presented - EXCELLENT, GOOD

07

The handouts are helpful and self-explanatory - EXCELLENT, GOOD

08

The presenter(s) effectively delivered material (enthusiasm, voice) - EXCELLENT, GOOD

09

The presenter(s) were prepared & demonstrated subject knowledge - EXCELLENT, WELL-PREPARED

10

The presenter(s) encouraged participation and questions - EXCELLENT, GOOD

11

The presenter(s) listened effectively to the participants - EXCELLENT, GOOD



COMMENTS FROM TRAINING PARTICIPANTS

I am extremely satisfied with the content. The video with the Gardner's tale was phenomenal.

Very informational! There were so many things I learned that I did not know before, especially about SAFE exams.

This training has given me more insight into some challenges that might arise within the correctional setting when dealing with sexual assault.

BARRIERS

The COVID-19 pandemic prevented NCEDSV from conducting live training thus training was provided as a "virtual live." Technology equipment malfunctions and lack of connectivity impacted some programs.

IN ADDITION

During the last 3 months of the grant period, we received supplementary funding to support ongoing training/outreach efforts. Additional activities accomplished with this funding included:

- » **Underwriting 22 advocates (not limited to rural) attendance at the following advanced virtual trainings:**
 - » Campus Sexual Misconduct: Preparing and Responding to Perpetration – *2 advocates*
 - » Colorado Advocacy in Action Conference – *5 advocates*
 - » Conference on Crimes Against Women – *2 advocates*
 - » Light 2021: A virtual Conference on Human Trafficking – *2 advocates*
 - » Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape State Conference – *3 advocates*
 - » Preparing and Responding to Violence Against LGBTQIA+ Students – *5 advocates*
 - » SUNY Spectrum – *1 advocate*
 - » Women Are Sacred Conference – *2 advocates*

These advocates represented Nevada Outreach Training Organization, Rape Crisis Center, CADV, AEDV, UNLV Care Center, Bamboo Bridges, Crisis Support Services, Sierra Community House, NCEDSV, and The National Judicial College

- » **Equipment purchased to enhance virtual training access for:**
 - » CAHS Mineral County
 - » WDVS Humboldt County
 - » Nevada Outreach Training Organization Nye & Esmeralda County
- » **Development/Revision/Translation and distribution of outreach materials to include:**
 - » Spanish translation and printing of Sexual Assault Handbook in English and Spanish
 - » Sexual Assault Poster development in Spanish and English
 - » Consent Palm Card developed in both English and Spanish



IN ADDITION

Sexual Assault Advocate Core Training Implementation

- » Online modules remain
- » Pilot program virtual sessions modified to 24 hours- 3 hour sessions 2 days a week for 4 weeks.
- » 16 advocates participated in the current cohort which ended August 18, 2021.
- » Advocates represented the following programs: Community Chest in Storey County, Nevada Outreach Training Organization in Nye County, Advocates to End Domestic Violence in Carson City, Winnemucca Committee Against Domestic Violence in Humboldt County and Domestic Violence Intervention in Churchill County.

Upcoming statewide sexual violence services funding (through SB177) will result in increased demand for training. The next live or live virtual training has been scheduled for *March 2022*.

Resource Links
www.ncedsv.org

Attachment A

TRAINING COMPONENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We want to begin by acknowledging the work of the Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs (WCSAP) in developing a core curriculum for sexual assault advocates. WCSAP gave NCEDSV permission to 'borrow' liberally from their work, adapting materials for use in Nevada and expanding content areas. We acknowledge the work of the Office for Victims of Crime using The Vicarious Trauma Toolkit.

NCEDSV also wants to acknowledge the work of consultants from Advocates to End Domestic Violence (Traci Trenoweth), Crisis Support Services of Nevada/Sexual Assault Support Services (Loralee Rae) and Washoe County Child Advocacy Center (Deb Robison, SANE) for their work on reviewing and editing materials for this project. They provided core content expertise in the development and implementation of this training program.

ONLINE MODULES

The majority of the on-line modules were developed with other grant funding, however each training participant was asked to complete the on-line modules prior to the virtual training sessions as base information for the overall training. At the conclusion of each online module the participant completes a short assessment. Participants must score a least a 70 to move to the next module.

TITLE & OBJECTIVES

INTRODUCTION TO SEXUAL VIOLENCE

After completing the module Introduction to Sexual Violence participants will be able to:

- » *Identify current terminology used in the advocacy field and reasons for its use;*
- » *Define sexual violence-related crimes based on Nevada Revised Statutes;*
- » *Define rape from a historical perspective and identify the improvements to the definition;*
- » *Describe the prevalence of sexual violence nationally and in Nevada based on the most recent statistics; and*
- » *Identify common myths and misconceptions supporting current attitudes about sexual assault.*

HISTORY OF THE SEXUAL VIOLENCE MOVEMENT

After completing the module History of the Sexual Violence Movement, participants will be able to:

- » *Identify three major historical events that set the stage for the development of the sexual violence movement;*
- » *Describe and discuss the role and contributions of black women on the sexual violence movement;*
- » *Identify the unique aspects of the modern sexual violence movement; and*
- » *Describe key moments of the current day #MeToo and #TimesUp efforts.*

THE APPLICATION OF ETHICS IN ADVOCACY

After completing the module Application of Ethics in Advocacy participants will be able to:

- » *Understand code of ethics applicable to direct services with sexual assault victims;*
- » *Identify areas of advocacy requiring strong personal and professional boundaries;*
- » *Define ethical conflicts of interest when working w/community partners and explore strategies to resolve these areas;*
- » *Identify the purpose of the National Victim Assistance Standards Consortium;*
- » *Identify the consequences when ethics are violated in survivor – advocate relationships and how to address these areas if violation occurs; and*
- » *Distinguish between engaging in advocacy work vs. practicing law.*

PRIVACY, CONFIDENTIALITY AND PRIVILEGE

After completing the module Privacy, Confidentiality and Privilege participants will be able to:

- » *Explain the origins of the Right to Privacy;*
- » *Explain the legal obligations surrounding Confidentiality and Privilege;*
- » *Identify key points of Confidentiality Releases;*
- » *Illustrate strategies on how to maintain confidentiality;*
- » *Define what a breach in confidentiality is, consequences of and what to do if it occurs;*
- » *Identify the legal exceptions to confidentiality; and*
- » *Identify the specific procedure when your organization receives a subpoena.*

CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND ITS ADULT SURVIVORS

After completing the module Child Sexual Abuse and Its Adult Survivors participants will be able to:

- » *Define child sexual abuse according to Nevada Revised Statute;*
- » *Understand the scope of child sexual abuse;*
- » *Identify the phases of grooming a child to become a victim of child sexual abuse;*
- » *Identify the reasons for a child not disclosing abuse;*
- » *Recognize the signs and symptoms of child sexual abuse;*
- » *Explain the impact of child sexual abuse;*
- » *Explain the role of the advocate with a child survivor; and*
- » *Identify when and how to make a mandatory report of child sexual abuse.*

SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC EXAMS IN NEVADA

After completing the module Sexual Assault Forensic Exams in Nevada participants will be able to:

- » *Identify the location of facilities where forensic exams may be conducted in Nevada;*
- » *Describe the role of the SANE;*
- » *Describe the purpose of the forensic exam after a sexual assault;*
- » *Describe the importance of consent for the forensic exam; and*
- » *Identify at least 2 considerations for survivors of sexual assault with unique needs.*

SEXUAL ASSAULT SURVIVOR ADVOCACY

After completing the module Sexual Assault Survivor Advocacy participants will be better able to:

- » *Identify the rights of a survivor of sexual violence;*
- » *Describe the process of crisis intervention with survivors;*
- » *Identify and understand all aspects of the right for a survivor to have a forensic medical exam and timelines related to evidence collection and retention;*
- » *Identify the role of the advocate in law enforcement accompaniment during their investigation of the sexual assault; and*
- » *Identify advocate functions in the criminal justice system involving prosecution, attorney appointments and the courtroom.*

INTIMATE PARTNER SEXUAL VIOLENCE

After completing the module Intimate Partner Sexual Violence participants will be able to:

- » *Define Intimate Partner Sexual Violence and know the scope of the issue nationwide and its relationship to Intimate Partner Violence;*
- » *Distinguish at least 3 ways IPSV impacts survivors;*
- » *Identify the demographics of populations who are at increased risk for IPSV; and*
- » *Recognize at least 3 resources for survivors of IPSV.*

VICTIM'S RIGHTS IN NEVADA

After completing the module Victim's Rights in Nevada participants will be able to:

- » *Identify the three pieces of legislation that provide rights for victims of crime in Nevada;*
- » *Identify the differences between all three pieces of legislation and how each one helps the survivor; and*
- » *Identify the steps for gathering evidence and security of the forensic kit as it pertains to the rights of the survivor of sexual assault.*

TRAINING SESSIONS: TITLE & OBJECTIVES

The original training curriculum was designed to be an in-person training. However, due to COVID 19 we were required to revise the curriculum to be presented in a virtual environment. Each session is four hours in length. For each session we have developed instructor notes, a training PowerPoint along with handouts and activity materials.

EXPLORING THE FOUNDATIONS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE: OPPRESSION & RAPE CULTURE BASIC

After completing the module Exploring the Foundations of Sexual Assault participants will be able to:

- » *Review the legal definitions of sexual violence and understand its common definitions used by advocates and survivors.*
- » *Define and explore how living in rape culture affects a person's perspective of sexual violence in our society.*
- » *Discuss how power is institutionalized in cultural, economic and political systems.*
- » *Learn how oppression intersects with sexual violence and how to examine and expand your own cultural responses as an advocate.*
- » *Learn how abuses of power disparities create oppression.*

DEFINING THE ADVOCATE ROLE: CRISIS INTERVENTION & ACTIVE LISTENING

After completing the module defining the advocate role participants will be able to:

- » *Define advocacy, the role of the advocate and the two primary communication skills needed to support survivors of sexual assault.*

Skills #1: Active Listening

- » *Understand the importance of listening and develop active listening skills.*

Skills #2: Crisis Intervention

- » *Learn about the stages of a crisis and practice listening and communication skills needed for crisis intervention.*

SEXUAL ASSAULT FORENSIC EXAMS IN NEVADA

After completing the module on Sexual Assault Forensic Exams in Nevada participants were able to:

- » *Define a forensic exam, medical terminology used, and know the locations of facilities where forensic exams may be conducted currently in Nevada.*
- » *Describe the role of the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) and the collaborative role of the community-based Sexual Assault Advocate.*
- » *Describe the purpose of the forensic exam after a sexual assault and the importance of obtaining consent for the forensic exam.*
- » *Identify at least 2 considerations for survivors of sexual assault with unique needs.*

OVERVIEW OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND SUPPORTING SURVIVORS FROM AT-RISK POPULATIONS

After completing the module on Supporting of Survivors from At-Risk Populations participants will be able to:

- » *Gain a better understanding of the immediate and long term effects of trauma, its implications for survivors from at-risk or vulnerable populations, and how to advocate effectively.*
- » *Learn a basic understanding of issues facing more at-risk or vulnerable survivors:*
 - » *Who identify as male;*
 - » *Who identify with the LGBTQ+ community;*
 - » *Who are 50-years-of-age and older; and*
 - » *People with developmental disabilities*

COURT ADVOCACY DAY 1 & DAY 2

After completing the module on Court Advocacy Day 1 and 2 participants will be able to:

- » *Understand the role of a court advocate including providing ethical support for victim-survivors for cases in the criminal and civil legal systems.*
- » *Understand the criminal & civil justice systems and points where advocates can support the rights of victim-survivors.*
- » *Understand the rights of sexual assault victim-survivors in Nevada.*
- » *Understand the confidentiality and privilege obligations of advocates.*
- » *Understand the civil remedies available to victim-survivors and how to advocate with and on behalf of victim-survivors.*

MULTIDIMENSIONAL ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH SEXUAL VIOLENCE

After completing the module on Multidimensional Issues associated with Sexual Violence participants will be able to:

- » *Understand the scope and dynamics of child sexual abuse how to support these children.*
- » *Learn how technology can support survivors and learn techniques used by offenders to stalk, harass, and coerce survivors.*
- » *Learn the basics of stalking behavior and how to help survivors.*
- » *Learn the basics of sex trafficking including how to identify and connect a survivor to appropriate resources.*

BASIC MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION

After completing the module Multi Trauma Victims participants will be able to:

- » *Learn introductory level information about mental health issues that may occur for survivors of sexual violence.*
- » *Learn introductory level information about co-occurring disorders such as substance abuse.*
- » *Increase understanding about people who are experiencing suicide ideation as a result of trauma and review strategies/tools that can be used for lethality assessment and intervention designed to prevent suicide.*
- » *Become more aware of one's own thoughts and feelings related to suicide and to recognize when someone needs professional help.*
- » *Learn introductory information about self-harm.*

- » *Use scenarios/skit to practice advocating with a survivor who is experiencing mental health issues and may also be using self-harm tactics as a coping strategy.*

VICARIOUS TRAUMA AND SELF-CARE

After completing the module Compassion Hurts participants will be able to:

- » *Define the terms related to vicarious trauma as it relates to victim service providers;*
- » *Recognize the signs and negative reactions of vicarious trauma and its stages of progression;*
- » *Identify ways to build resiliency when working with trauma survivors;*
- » *Participants will identify their own personal stressors and discuss ways to reduce the impact the stressors have on them; and*
- » *Identify ways to move from ignoring or coping ineffectively with stressors to practicing self-care.*