

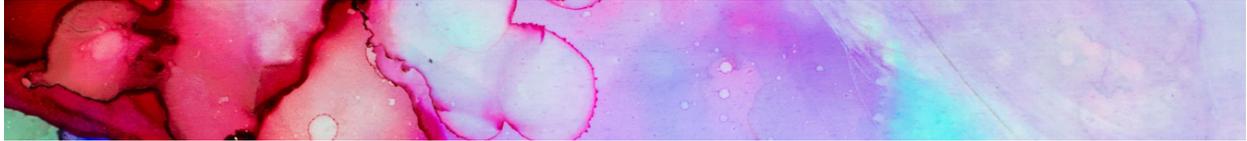


New York State Coalition Against Sexual Assault

Believing. Healing. Preventing.

MONTHLY DIGEST

OCTOBER 2021



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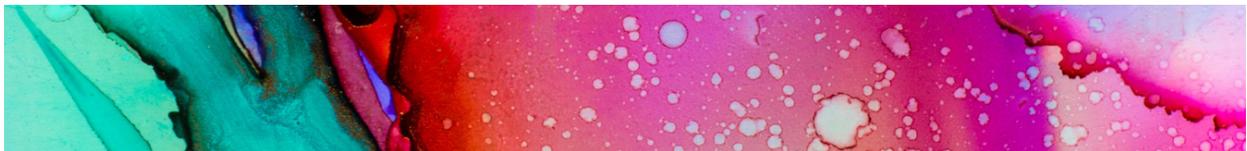
Do you have announcements that you would like NYSCASA to share in our Monthly Digest? Email submissions with “Newsletter” in the subject line to info@nyscasa.org.

Stay Connected

Do you want to receive news and training announcements from NYSCASA in your inbox? Sign up for our mailing list here: bit.ly/NYSCASAnews.

Support Our Work

Your [support](#) helps NYSCASA improve response to sexual assault survivors and strengthen prevention efforts across New York State. [Click here](#) to learn how to make a tax-deductible donation.





Announcements and Events

October Is Domestic Violence Awareness Month: #Every1KnowsSome1

Our sibling coalition, the New York State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NYSCADV), is partnering with the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) and other state coalitions across the nation to start a coordinated national conversation about domestic violence and how we can all contribute to changing the narrative on this overshadowed but fundamental topics to recognize Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM).

This year's campaign theme, #Every1KnowsSome1, strives to highlight how common domestic violence is and that it is more than physical violence. NNEDV's Week of Action will be held from Monday, Oct. 18 through Sunday, October 24. Purple Thursday will be held on Thursday, Oct. 21. [Click here to view the full DVAM toolkit and branding items.](#)

NYSCADV is also developing awareness month plans, which will include a social media campaign, a virtual pumpkin decorating contest, and an awareness presentation. More information will be provided soon, but in the meantime, mark your calendars for a public awareness Facebook live presentation on (Purple Thursday) at 12 PM from NYSCADV.

Job Opportunities in the Field

- [PREA Outreach Director](#) at NYSCASA (Albany, NY)
- [PREA Specialist](#) at Planned Parenthood of Greater New York (Corning, NY)
- [Multiple positions](#) at Fearless! Hudson Valley, Inc. (Newburgh, NY)
- [Multiple positions](#) at Advocacy Center of Tompkins County (Ithaca, NY)

NYS Safer Bars Program News: Listening Sessions for LGBTQ+ Community Members

Throughout October and November, Cicitelli Associates Inc. (CAI) will host listening sessions for the LGBTQ+ community to share their experiences and help create safer bars and nightlife in New York State. There are separate listening sessions for patrons and staff of LGBTQ+ bars, nightlife establishments, and other LGBTQ+ nightlife events in New York. Selected participants will receive a \$30 gift card. [Click here to learn more and register.](#)

Coalition Events

Oct. 6 Virtual Informational Session on Vela, Data Collection and Reporting Software

Presented by NYSCASA and Element74

Register at <https://forms.gle/P2ier53gGdRaUS3f>

Non-NYSCASA Events

Oct. 1 A SAFeR Approach to Getting Child Support: How Advocates Can Help Ensure Survivors' Safety

Presented by the Battered Women's Justice Project

[Click here to register.](#)

Oct. 1 Tillie Black Bear 'Women Are Sacred' Day Webinar

Presented by the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center

[Click here to register.](#)

Oct. 6 RAFT Cares Support Call for Advocates

Presented by RAFT (Resilience for Advocates through Foundational Training)

Join using this Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/5858043499>

Meeting ID: 585 804 3499

Passcode: raftcares!

Oct. 6 TECHNICOOL: Keeping Kids Safe on the Internet

Presented by Prevent Child Abuse Vermont; registration cost: \$25

[Click here to register.](#)

Oct. 6–8 Virtual Training on Motivational interviewing for Sexual Assault Victims and Survivors

Presented by the Rensselaer County SART

[Day 1 Registration](#) · [Day 2 Registration](#) · [Day 3 Registration](#)

Oct. 6 and Oct. 13 Trauma-Informed Approaches in Restorative Justice and Healing-Focused Processes

Presented by the Center for Dialogue and Resolution

[Click here to register.](#)

Oct. 7 Animal Welfare and Domestic Violence

Presented by Unity House

[Click here to register.](#)

Non-NYSCASA Events (continued)

- Oct. 13** **PreventConnect Webinar: #WeGovern in Practice: Claiming Governance in Our Communities**
Presented by PreventConnect and the Resonance Network
[Click here to register.](#)
- Oct. 14** **Working with LGBTQ+ Survivors of Sexual Violence, Part 1**
Presented by the Justice Clearinghouse
[Click here to register.](#)
- Oct. 14** **Housing: Challenges, Best Practices, and the Impact of COVID-19**
Presented by Unity House
[Click here to register.](#)
- Oct. 18–24** **Domestic Violence Awareness Week of Action**
Coordinated by the National Network to End Domestic Violence
[Click here to learn more and access the Week of Action toolkit.](#)
- Oct. 19** **Pivots in Prevention: College Campus Sexual Violence Prevention and COVID-19**
Presented by PreventConnect
[Click here to register.](#)
- Oct. 19** **Understanding and Responding to the Sexual Behaviors of Children**
Presented by Prevent Child Abuse Vermont; registration cost: \$25
[Click here to register.](#)
- Oct. 20** **Balancing Technology Innovation and Safety Within the Context of Gender-Based Violence**
Presented by the NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence
[Click here to register.](#)
- Oct. 21** **What Is Child Sexual Abuse?**
Presented by Prevent Child Abuse Vermont; registration cost: \$25
[Click here to register.](#)
- Oct. 22** **The Many Faces of Family Violence Virtual Conference**
Presented by The Safe Center LI
[Click here to learn more and register.](#)

Non-NYSCASA Events (continued)

- Oct. 26** **Emerging Issues for Domestic Violence Survivors with Disabilities and Deaf Survivors: 2021 and Beyond**
Presented by the National Center on Ending Abuse of People with Disabilities
[Click here to register.](#)
- Oct. 28** **The Scope of Racial Justice Through the Provider's Eyes**
Presented by Unity House
[Click here to register.](#)
- Nov. 1** **Nurturing Healthy Sexual Development**
Presented by Prevent Child Abuse Vermont; registration cost: \$25
[Click here to register.](#)
- Nov. 3** **Understanding and Responding to the Sexual Behaviors of Children**
Presented by Prevent Child Abuse Vermont; registration cost: \$25
[Click here to register.](#)
- Nov. 4** **Understanding and Responding to the Sexual Behaviors of Adolescents**
Presented by Prevent Child Abuse Vermont; registration cost: \$25
[Click here to register.](#)
- Nov. 10** **Invisible War: A Virtual Screening/Panel Discussion on Sexual Assault in the Military**
Presented by the Albany County Crime Victims and Sexual Violence Center
[Click here to register.](#)
- Nov. 10** **Leader or Loner: How to Center and Support Staff Belonging to Communities Experiencing Systemic Oppression**
Presented by the Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs
[Click here to register.](#)
- Nov. 17** **Straddling the Line Between Organizational Bravery and Staff Burnout**
Presented by the Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs
[Click here to register.](#)



Policy and Legislative Advocacy

Take Action on NYS Legislation Using NYSCASA'S State Policy Action Center

Join NYSCASA in advocating for legislation that improves sexual violence prevention and intervention, such as comprehensive sexuality education, incapacity to consent, vacating convictions for trafficking survivors, and expanding access to civil legal remedies for adult survivors of sexual violence.

Through our State Policy Action Center, you can learn more about these policy campaigns and access scripts you can use to engage your elected officials. Take action through the State Policy Action Center at p2a.co/2dMNYET.

The Adult Survivors Act Gains Momentum

The Model Alliance launched a petition calling on companies to sign onto the RESPECT Program to protect workers and for New York State lawmakers to pass the [Adult Survivors Act](#) (S.66 (Hoylman)/A.648 (Rosenthal)), which would allow survivors who were 18 or older at the time of their abuse and are now outside the statute of limitations to come forward and seek justice through civil legal remedies. [Click here to sign the Model Alliance petition on coworker.org](#). [Click here to take action using NYSCASA's State Policy Action Center](#).

Advocates Push to #CodifyConsent in New York

This month, UltraViolet launched a [petition](#) to call on New York State lawmakers to pass [Assembly Bill A.6540A](#), which would add a definition of consent in New York's penal laws. The bill defines consent as "a freely given, knowledgeable, and informed agreement." At this time, New York's penal laws only define what is *not* consent ([Section 130.05](#)). [Learn more about A.6540A](#). [Click here to sign the #CodifyConsent petition on act.weareultraviolet.org](#).

Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) Reauthorization Introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives

Now is the time to [contact your Member of Congress](#) and let them know you support FVPSA Reauthorization (H.R. 2119) and want them to support it too.

If passed, this bill will increase the appropriations level to \$253 million from \$175 million.

H.R. 2119 also:

- Makes a robust investment in prevention by expanding prevention efforts to all states versus the one small program, DELTA, under the current version which only goes to 10 states (about \$6 million total for the program)

- Makes needed changes to address the needs of Indigenous communities, including increased funding and making sure tribal coalitions receive funds just like state coalitions do
- Codifies the Alaska Native Resource Center so it no longer is funded from discretionary funds
- Funds an underserved grant program for populations that don't feel comfortable going to mainstream organizations like elders, younger adults, and LGBTQ people
- Funds a grant program that increases the capacity of culturally specific community-based organizations to expand access to safety for survivors of color, as well as provisions that promote best practices.

It is critical to reauthorize FVPSA to better address the many shifts in the field and better serve survivors. [Contact your Member of Congress](#) and let them know you would like for them to vote yes on H.R. 2119:

- Tweet your House of Representatives Member: ".@Representative please support H.R. 2119 which will reauthorize FVPSA. This bill will help many survivors of domestic and sexual violence. As your constituent, I appreciate your support."
- Tag your representative on social media using [these Twitter handles](#)
- You can also email them through their Congress.gov webpage. Here is some sample language:

Greetings!

My name is [your name and, if applicable, your organization], and I am a constituent writing to you from [your location] to urge you to support H.R. 2119, the Family Violence Prevention and Services Improvement Act of 2021. FVPSA helps survivors access life-saving services by providing funding for emergency shelters, crisis counseling, safety planning, assistance recovering from financial abuse, and help addressing housing insecurity. FVPSA also provides funds to state/territory domestic violence coalitions, a program dedicated to addressing the needs of children of domestic violence victims, and technical assistance and training programs like national resource centers. Please vote yes on H.R. 2119 to support domestic and sexual violence survivors.

*Thank you,
[Your name]*

Perspectives and News About Anti-Sexual Violence Policy

- [Opinion: The R. Kelly verdict and the Adult Survivors Act](#), Marissa Hoechstetter, *New York Daily News* (Sept. 29, 2021)
- [Loopholes remain in New York's sexual harassment laws](#), Michelle Del Rey, *Times Union* (Sept. 28, 2021)
- [Senate finally signals action on the Violence Against Women Act](#), Jennifer Bendery, *Huffington Post* (Sept. 28, 2021)
- [Opinion: Gabby Petito's tragic death should inspire changes to domestic violence policy](#), Trish Zornio, *The Colorado Sun* (Sept. 27, 2021)
- [How I channeled anger from my rape to help push for survivor-led legislation](#), Gina Tron, *Rewire News Group* (Sept. 24, 2021)
- [Why fashion models have a stake in Adult Victims Act](#), Nick Reisman, *Spectrum News 1* (Sept. 17, 2021)
- [Opinion: Child Victims Act provided window into vast pain](#), Chris Churchill, *Times Union* (Sept. 11, 2021)
- [As Fashion Week starts, Hochul urged to support Adult Survivors Act](#), Nick Reisman, *Spectrum News 1* (Sept. 9, 2021)
- [Editorial: New measure needed: State legislators should move Adult Survivors Act forward](#), The Daily News Editorial Board, *The Daily News* (Sept. 3, 2021)
- [Prince Andrew, Bob Dylan, Catholic priests, and the Child Victims Act](#), Ritu Prasad and Holly Honderich, *BBC News* (Sept. 3, 2021)
- [Governor Hochul changing sexual harassment training, workers rights](#), Ed Dratch, *WKBW Buffalo* (Aug 24, 2021)
- [She was forced to wed at 13. Now she's helped to make child marriage illegal in N.Y.](#), Maya Brown, *NBC News* (Aug. 23, 2021)
- [Nearly 11,000 Child Victims Act lawsuits filed in New York State](#), Jay Tokasz, *The Buffalo News* (Aug. 17, 2021)



Preventing Sexual Violence

Health Equity Approaches to Prevent Sexual Violence

Preventing sexual violence means we all must address deep-rooted abuses of power that contribute to inequities in health, safety, and well-being. A health equity approach to preventing sexual violence means that we need to both understand and address the factors that contribute to violence and safety and factors that expose some communities — especially communities that have been historically oppressed — to higher rates of sexual violence. A new joint publication by Prevention Institute and the National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC), *A Health Equity Approach to Preventing Sexual Violence*, explores strategies to build communities where everyone has a fair and just opportunity to be safe from sexual violence. [Click here to access the report.](#)

Human Trafficking Prevention Toolkit

The [North Carolina Coalition Against Sexual Assault](#) (NCCASA) recently published their Human Trafficking Prevention Toolkit. [In this toolkit](#), you'll find an overview of what human trafficking is and the public health approach to violence prevention, an exploration of the historical context that informs our current frameworks and gaps, tips for effective upstream prevention, and strategies for incorporating a harm reduction lens into your human trafficking prevention work, as well as critical considerations in selecting a prevention strategy. [Click here to access this resource.](#)

Walking in Balance with All our Relations: Leadership from and Partnerships with Indigenous Communities to End Gender-Based Violence and Restore Well-Being

In this webinar hosted by PreventConnect and the Prevention Institute, learn about Visioning B.E.A.R. Circle Intertribal Coalition's prevention education and training and technical assistance work to eliminate interpersonal violence in tribal, intertribal, or multicultural communities. Participants will also learn about emerging work at The Center at McKinleyville to promote racial justice and equitable partnerships with Indigenous communities in Humboldt County, California. [Click here to access the webinar recording.](#)



Campus Sexual Violence

Student Groups: Apply to Join NYSCASA's Student Activist Network Against Sexual Assault!

NYSCASA invites student groups at any New York State university/college to apply to join the first cohort of our Student Activist Network Against Sexual Assault (SANASA). [Click here to learn more about this initiative and how to apply](#). The application deadline to be considered for the first cohort is October 15, 2021.

If you have questions, please contact Joanne Zannoni, Executive Director: jzannoni@nyscasa.org.

Perspectives and News About Campus Sexual Violence

- [Why inclusive classrooms matter](#), blog post from RALIANCE (Sept. 23, 2021)
- [How social media is fueling protests against campus sexual assault](#), Katie Hidalgo Bellows, *The Chronicle of Higher Education* (Sept. 21, 2021)
- [Colleges have the opportunity to reset campus culture](#), blog post from RALIANCE (Sept. 16, 2021)
- [The 'red zone' is the most dangerous time of year for campus sexual assault. Here's what you need to know](#), Anne Branigin, *The Lily* (Sept. 11, 2021)
- [Opinion: Taking action on campus sexual assaults by engaging men](#), Tracey Vitchers, *Diverse Issues in Higher Education* (Sept. 10, 2021)
- [Letter from RALIANCE: What do students need this back-to-school season?](#) blog post from RALIANCE (Sept. 9, 2021)
- [Raising awareness of sexual violence on college campuses as students enter the 'Red Zone'](#), Michelle Liu, *Boston Globe* (Sept. 2, 2021)
- [Opinion: Here's why college guys commit sexual assaults they don't realize are assaults](#), Kate Cohen, *The Washington Post* (Aug. 29, 2021)



Trauma and Mental Health

Resource List: Finding Mental Health Support for BIPOC Survivors

For many survivors of sexual violence, finding mental health support is a crucial part of their healing journey, but due to health inequities, mental health care is often inaccessible — or not culturally relevant — for BIPOC survivors. This resource list, compiled by the National Sexual Violence Resource Center and the Racial and Cultural Equity (RACE) workgroup, is intended to help advocates provide resources on mental health support specific to BIPOC communities. [Click here to access the resource list.](#)

Resilience, Trauma & Hope: A Healing Response, Webinar II of the Self-Care & Healing During COVID-19 Webinar Series

This webinar recording focuses on the impact of trauma and explores how to center hope, healing, and resilience for ourselves and our community. The presenters introduce a holistic healing approach involving culture, spirituality, civic action, and collective healing. [Click here to access the recording.](#)

Perspectives and News About Trauma and Mental Health

- [Fawn: The trauma response that is easiest to miss](#), Janae Elizabeth, *Trauma Geek* (Sept. 22, 2021)
- [Trauma, trust, and triumph: Psychiatrist Bessel van der Kolk on how to recover from our deepest pain](#), Zoe Williams, *The Guardian* (Sept. 20, 2021)
- [Simone Biles ties mental health struggle at Tokyo olympics to Nassar sexual abuse](#), Katie Kindelan, *Good Morning America* (Sept. 15, 2021)
- [The crucial relationship between PTSD and the body](#), Grant Hilary Brenner, *Psychology Today* (Sept. 15, 2021)
- [Unacknowledged rape: the sexual assault survivors who hide their trauma – even from themselves](#), Rachel Thompson, *The Guardian* (Aug. 26, 2021)
- [Mapping my PTSD in Wanda Maximoff’s sitcom universe](#), *Wear Your Voice Magazine* (Mar 9, 2021)
- [‘No physical injuries’ minimizes the emotional trauma of assault survivors](#), David Walton, *The Conversation* (Sept. 27, 2020)

Anti-Oppression in Our Work

Ending Violence Without Violence Recordings and Resources

NYSCASA, Seven Dancers Coalition, and Interrupting Criminalization: Research in Action are grateful to all who have participated in our Ending Violence Without Violence virtual training series during 2020 and 2021. All available recordings, plus additional resources, are now available on the event website at www.endviolence2020.com/past-events

Rape Culture Intervention Toolkit

Created by Hope Praxis Collective, the objectives of the [Rape Culture Intervention Toolkit](#) are to provide people with an understanding of how rape culture maintains the status quo in the US (and abroad), identify what power we have to check and transform rape culture, and to provide people with skills on how to make amends for harm from an abolitionist perspective. [Click here to access the toolkit and a recording of a webinar with Project NIA.](#)

Ableism and Violence: A Plain Language Guide

Ableism and Violence: A Plain Language Guide is a booklet created by the Uniting for Change Coalition. The booklet describes how ableism plays a role in violence against disabilities, and opens the door towards achieving disability justice in the anti-violence movement. [Click here to access this resource.](#)

TransformHarm Resource Hub

TransformHarm is a resource hub about ending violence. Created by Mariame Kaba and designed by Lu Design Studio, the site includes selected articles, audio-visual resources, curricula, and more. Focus areas include transformative justice, community accountability, restorative justice, abolition, healing justice, and carceral feminism. Access this resource at transformharm.org.

