



April is National Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Publication Date: 01 April 2024

Current as of: 29 March 2024

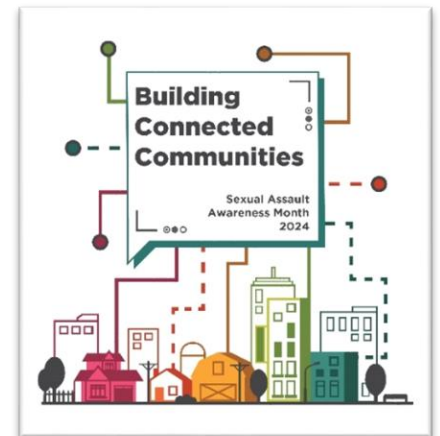
2024 Theme: *Building Connected Communities*

April 2024 marks the official 23rd anniversary of Sexual Assault Awareness Month and the Office of Family Violence Prevention and Services (OFVPS) is proud to support this year's public awareness campaigns, webinars, social media events, blogs, radio shows, etc. coordinated by our recipients and partners to promote sexual assault awareness and prevention. Our team will spend this month raising awareness about the nationwide network of services available to support survivors with extensive marketing of state coalitions, tribes, Sexual Assault Capacity Building Center's (SACBC), FVPSA Resource Center's, National Hotline's, and Culturally Specific Sexual Assault Capacity (CSSAC) Building Center's sponsored events.


Building Connected Communities helps us reduce the likelihood of sexual abuse, assault, and harassment in our communities. Any space where people come together is a community, whether in neighborhoods, workplaces, campuses, organizations, or even online spaces.

Our Voices Have Power. Together, We Can Build Safe and Respectful Communities.

[2024 SAAM Calendar of Events](#) (PDF — 545.15 KB)



2024 Sexual Assault Awareness Month Activities

Date	Event	Links
 <p data-bbox="155 756 390 829">Friday, March 29th 3:00 p.m. PT</p>	<p data-bbox="678 480 1514 670">Inter-Tribal Council of CA, Inc. is hosting a Documentary Screening- “From Darkness to Light: Tribal Resilience in the Face of Violence” Join us for an in-person event at the Crest Theatre on K Street in Sacramento, CA, USA.</p> <p data-bbox="678 721 1535 1192">This powerful documentary explores the incredible strength and resilience of Tribal communities in the face of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking. This film highlights the stories of hope amidst a history of historical trauma. Through personal stories and interviews, this film sheds light on the Tribal advocates working towards healing and the communities supporting them. Following the film screening there will be a live question & answer session from survivors and advocates featured in the documentary. Don't miss this opportunity to witness the triumph of the human spirit!</p>	<p data-bbox="1583 561 1881 589">Purchase Tickets Here</p>



Tuesday, April 2nd
12:00 p.m. ET

2024 SAAM Day of Action

The first Tuesday of every April is the SAAM Day of Action. The Day of Action is an opportunity to start off the month with highly visible and coordinated actions. Show your support for survivors of sexual harassment and abuse by wearing teal — the color of sexual violence prevention — on April 2nd and post a selfie to Twitter or Instagram using #SAAM2024. By wearing teal, you are signaling that you support survivors and are a safe person to talk to if they need to reach out.

[@NSVRC](#)

Or

[@preventconnect](#)

On IG Live



Wednesday, April 3rd
3:00 p.m. ET

Online Community Conversations Prevention: Empowering Mothers as Nurturers of Positive Masculinity

To increase public awareness related to the impact of sexual violence in API communities. We are hosting quarterly online Community Conversation to discuss issues related to sexual violence and innovative strategies on the ground. The first webinar is centered on the role of mothers in prevention work.

[Register Here](#)



Wednesday, April 3rd
4:00 p.m. ET

District Advocacy Webinar

Don't miss out on this essential webinar designed to equip you with the tools and knowledge needed to effectively engage with your members of Congress during April recess. Learn how to educate them on the crucial importance of federal funding for survivor services and prevention.

[Register Here](#)

Accessibility: Live closed captioning, Spanish, and ASL interpretation will be provided



National Alliance to
End Sexual Violence

Wednesday, April 10th
3:00 p.m. ET

**SAAM Congressional Briefing
Rayburn Office Building**

Our theme will be Honoring Sexual Assault Awareness Month:
Meeting the Needs of Sexual Assault Survivors.
We will also be posting regularly on our social media channels
throughout the month on X (Twitter), Facebook, Instagram, and
LinkedIn @endsxlvioence

To attend in person

[Register Here](#)



Saturday, April 13th
Registration 8:00 a.m. CT
Race Starts 10:00 a.m. CT

Race to Zero—Bismarck, ND

Race to Zero: 5K Run/Walk or 10K Run for Sexual Assault
Awareness & Prevention is a family-friendly event to encourage
community conversation about sexual assault awareness and
prevention. Support from not only a survivor's friends and
family, but also the larger community, can translate into a better
response for victims of sexual assault and ultimately, change
social norms that offenders use to commit sexual violence. Race
to Zero is presented by the Abused Adult Resource Center,
Bismarck State College, CAWS North Dakota, the Sexual Assault
Prevention & Response Program of the North Dakota National
Guard, and United Tribes Technical College.

[Register Here](#)

[Follow Race to Zero on
Facebook for more
updates](#)



The National Center on Violence Against Women in the Black Community

Monday, April 15th

1:00 p.m.

SAAM Webinar

Culture Cures, History Heals: Engaging Culturally-Rooted Work to Center and Affirm Healing for Survivors of Sexual Assault

During this webinar, we will discuss how white supremacy, anti-blackness, sexism, and other forms of oppression continue to emerge for Black survivors when seeking access to services. Through a critical, Black feminist, and social justice lens, we will discuss the importance of communal healing and restorative and transformative justice within our community. Finally, we will explore why it is necessary to center cultural humility in sexual assault prevention and service provision as well as community work, while offering a call to action to push forward the anti-rape movement through cultural liberation.

[Register Here](#)



The week of
April 15th – 19th

2024 Culturally Specific Sexual Assault Awareness Week

The National Organization of Sisters of Color Ending Sexual Assault (SCESA) will work in collaboration with the National Communities of Color Sexual Assault Organizations to highlight 2024: Culturally Specific Sexual Assault Awareness Week through all social media platforms. This year's theme: "Together We Rise"

[More information provided here](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Website](#)






Tuesday, April 16th

Reimagining our Response: 3-Part Webinar Series

Reimagining our Response: Part 1 of 3

Exploring Sexual Violence Response Frameworks

[Register Here](#)

<p>2:00 p.m. ET</p>	<p>Discussion of current response frameworks, including SARTs & mobile advocacy, while talking about broadening those approaches to be more culturally responsive to realities of communities.</p>	
 <p>Wednesday & Thursday, April 17th – 18th Seattle, WA</p>	<p>Pacific Northwest Regional Convening: Supporting Black Maternal Vitality & Resiliency At the Intersection of COVID-19, Anti-Black Racism and Gender-Based Violence</p> <p>NRCDV’s third regional convening on Black maternal health, hosted during Black Maternal Health Week 2024 and SAAM 2024, will bring together survivors and practitioners from across sectors in the Pacific Northwest to support and celebrate Black maternal vitality.</p> <p>Over two days, participants will identify opportunities for cross-sector collaboration and innovative practices to promote reproductive justice and narrow gaps in services for Black women and birthing people.</p>	<p>Registration available by invitation only.</p>
 <p>Thursday, April 18th & Thursday, April 25th</p>	<p>Podcast: Black Women, Trauma and Surviving Sexual Assault Series: Healing Earth</p> <p>The focus of this podcast is on using our Historical Connection to the Earth as a Healing Tool for Black Survivors of Sexual Assault. All information can be found on social media platforms.</p>	<p>Facebook</p> <p>Instagram</p> <p>Website</p>
 <p>Tuesday, April 23rd 7:30 a.m. ET</p>	<p>Engaging Men on Campus: Targeting Outreach Efforts Toward Transition-Age Youth Experiencing Sexual Assault</p> <p>Presented by: John Roberts from In Our Own Voices</p> <p>Men, especially queer and trans men, are often left out of conversations about safety on college campuses. Join the National LGBTQ+ Institute on IPV and John Roberts of In Our</p>	<p>Register Here</p>



Tuesday, April 23rd
 12:00 p.m. ET (English)
 7:00 p.m. ET (Spanish)

Own Voices for a discussion on the high rates of sexual violence experienced by men on campuses and recommendations for bringing their voices to prevention spaces.

Mujeres' Approach to Healing & Prevention of Sexual Assault and Empowering Latine Survivors

Facilitator: Valerie Gonzalez, Technical Assistance Manager

"Mujeres' Approach to Healing & Prevention of Sexual Assault and Empowering Latine Survivors" explores its transformative world and sheds light on the SA program's commitment to empowering survivors of sexual assault through the lens of cultural sensitivity, fostering a healing space that promotes resilience and community solidarity.

[Register Here](#)



Wednesday, April 24th

National Denim Day

Denim Day is a campaign on a Wednesday in April in honor of Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The campaign began after a ruling by the Italian Supreme Court where a rape conviction was overturned because the justices felt that since the victim was wearing tight jeans, she must have helped the person who raped her remove her jeans, thereby implying consent. Denim Day asks community members, elected officials, businesses, and students to make a social statement with their fashion statement by wearing jeans on this day as a visible means of protest against the misconceptions that surround sexual violence



[Denim Day Pledge](#)



Wednesday, April 24th
 3:00 p.m. ET

**Online Community Conversation
 Breaking the Silence: Unveiling the Reality of Sexual Violence
 – Understanding its Meaning and Manifestation in Action**

[Register Here](#)

	<p>What does this truly entail? Is disclosure of experiences the ultimate objective? Furthermore, how does our funding impact our community's approach to delivering services to victims and survivors of sexual violence? Let's explore these questions together.</p>	
 <p>Wednesday, April 24th 7:00 p.m. ET (English) 9:30 p.m. ET (Spanish)</p>	<p>Healing Through Movement Facilitator: Suzette Guzman, Technical Assistance Manager</p> <p>Embark on a transformative journey with us in our empowering webinar, "Healing Through Movement." Discover how trauma manifests in our bodies and learn evidence-based techniques to release it. Through meditation, stretching, and dance, we'll reclaim our bodies and embrace our inner strength. This virtual series, curated to support Latine survivors of sexual assault and gender-based violence, offers a safe space to heal and grow. Let's move toward empowerment together!</p>	<p>Register Here</p>
 <p>Thursday, April 25th 12:00 p.m. (English)</p>	<p>Cultivating Cultural Care: Supporting Advocates in the Sexual Violence Field Facilitator: Karen Romero, Senior Director of Training of Freedom Network USA</p> <p>Advocates in the sexual violence field have long been called to provide support and trauma-informed care for survivors. However, advocates rarely experience the same approach and investment in their own wellbeing. Latine and BIPOC advocates can experience additional levels of vicarious trauma and burnout. Often left navigating how their racial identity fits into their work.</p> <p>During this interactive webinar participants will address the wellbeing and care of those providing support and services to</p>	<p>Register Here</p>

survivors of sexual violence. The session will discuss central components of trauma-informed care as it applies to advocates in their own work and wellbeing.

Attendees will:

- Learn practical applications of trauma-informed care
- Explore culture as a protective factor
- Identify steps to support BIPOC advocates experiencing vicarious trauma and burn out



Monday, April 29th
12:00 p.m. ET

We Never Give Up the Fight: A Report of the National LGBTQ+ Women’s Community Survey

Presented by: Jaime M. Grant

The Los Angeles LGBT Center, in partnership with Justice Work and 120 partner organizations, has released the findings from the largest and most comprehensive survey on LGBTQ+ women who partner with women in the United States. The study “We Never Give Up the Fight”: A Report of the National LGBTQ+ Women’s Community Survey,” aims to celebrate the expansiveness of its community, and use its findings to strengthen our movements, shift policy agendas, and increase funding streams where needed. The report analyzes the responses of 5,002 LGBTQ+ women who answered nearly 170 questions in a national community survey fielded from June 2021–June 2022. There are a variety of subjects covered within this report including an in-depth look at intimate partner violence within the LGBTQ+ community.

Join the National LGBTQ+ Institute on IPV as we host Jaime M. Grant to discuss the findings of this study and its implications for the DV/SA field.

[Register Here](#)



Tuesday, April 30th
2:00 p.m. ET

Reimagining our Response 3-Part Webinar Series
Reimagining our Response: Part 2 of 3
Utilizing Indigenous Values to Shape our Response to Sexual Violence

Building on part one of this series, this webinar will dive deeper into the response to sexual violence in our communities with discussion focused on integrating value and culture driven work in our partnerships, as well as exploration of non-acute sexual assault response.

[Register Here](#)



Tuesday, April 30th
6:00 p.m. (Spanish)

Cultivating Cultural Care: Supporting Advocates in the Sexual Violence Field

Facilitator: Karen Romero, Senior Director of Training of Freedom Network USA




Advocates in the sexual violence field have long been called to provide support and trauma-informed care for survivors. However, advocates rarely experience the same approach and investment in their own wellbeing. Latine and BIPOC advocates can experience additional levels of vicarious trauma and burnout. Often left navigating how their racial identity fits into their work.

During this interactive webinar participants will address the wellbeing and care of those providing support and services to survivors of sexual violence. The session will discuss central components of trauma-informed care as it applies to advocates in their own work and wellbeing.

Attendees will:

- Learn practical applications of trauma-informed care
- Explore culture as a protective factor

[Register Here](#)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify steps to support BIPOC advocates experiencing vicarious trauma and burn out 	
  <p>Tuesday, May 14th 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. ET</p>	<p>Reimagining our Response 3-Part Webinar Series Reimagining our Response: Part 3 of 3 Beyond Response: Integrating Prevention and Social Change into Sexual Violence Work</p> <p>This interactive webinar will focus on how programs can move beyond crisis and intervention work to make lasting change in communities. Discussion will include overviews of prevention strategies as well as the linkage to social and systems change, including influencing policy.</p>	<p>Register Here</p>

All Month

- Support for Advocates: Wellbeing and Prevention of Vicarious Trauma Podcast** (FVPSA & National Center on Domestic Violence, Trauma & Mental Health)

- Often as caregivers and advocates, we put our own wellbeing and self-care on the back burner. Tune in to this discussion where FVPSA and NCDVTMH staff talk about vicarious trauma, how we as advocates can prevent it and what we can do recover when we experience it. They will give some practical tips that are quick to implement and share what they have done to incorporate those tips in their own lives.
- Listen here: [2023 Sexual Assault Awareness Month | The Administration for Children and Families \(hhs.gov\)](#)
- **30 Days of SAAM Instagram Challenge 2024** (NSVRC)
 - Join advocates, activists, survivors, and supporters who are getting involved in Sexual Assault Awareness Month this April on Instagram. Daily prompts encourage creative ways for you to raise awareness, educate, and connect with others — plus you have a chance to win prizes every day you participate.
 - Visit NSVRC for more details: [#30DaysofSAAM Instagram Challenge 2024 | National Sexual Violence Resource Center \(NSVRC\)](#)
- **SAAM 2024 Coloring Pages**
 - These coloring pages were designed as a part of NSVRC's Building Connected Communities campaign for Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) in April 2024. Choose one of four designs. Share how you are coloring to build community for #SAAM.
 - Visit NSCRV for more details: [SAAM 2024 Coloring Pages | National Sexual Violence Resource Center \(NSVRC\)](#)
- **By & For: Stories of the Beauty, Power, & Wisdom Within** (NRCDV)
 - Highlights this youth-centered and youth-led campaign connecting it to Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Engaging over 30 young people and Black leaders and creatives, this social media campaign centers Black youth's lived experiences and focuses on storytelling and prevention in conjunction with NRCDV's #1Thing campaign.
 - Living out our values through equitable compensation, intentional leadership, and liberative structures, NRCDV collaborated with a diverse Youth Advisory Board to guide the development of this campaign made for Black youth by

Black youth. The visual representation, developed by Artist Candii Kismet, and accompanying messages reflect stories about navigating domestic violence, sexual assault, or other community violence as a young Black person.

- For more information visit: [#1Thing | Domestic Violence Awareness Project \(dvawareness.org\)](#)

- **Awareness Highlight: Centering Equity for SAAM & Black Maternal Health Week (NRCDV)**

- In recognition of Black Maternal Health Week (April 11-17) and SAAM, this blog post on the Domestic Violence Awareness Project website explores the connections between maternal health, sexual violence prevention, and health equity, following the lead of Black-led organizations doing this work. It offers key resources and opportunities for engagement around this topic, in alignment with NSVRC's theme for SAAM 2023, Drawing Connections: Prevention Demands Equity.
- Available at: [Awareness Blog | Domestic Violence Awareness Project \(dvawareness.org\)](#)

- **Voice of Voices (“Voz de Voces”) Podcast Episode** (Coordinadora Paz para Las Mujeres)

- During the past year, Voice of Voices (“Voz de Voces”) Podcast has uploaded 9 episodes to Spotify. The Sexual Violence thematic Podcast will be released during the last week of April.
- Available at: Voz de Voces Podcast at Spotify: [Voz de Voces | Podcast on Spotify](#)

- **WEBINAR (Part 1): Facilitación que Transforma: Construyendo Comunidades**

- **Virtuales / Transformative Facilitation: Building Virtual Communities** (April 2022)

- This conversational webinar explores building engaging virtual communities. We assert that creating an environment that invites participation and centers access can bring us closer even when we are physically apart.
- Available at: [WEBINAR \(Part 1\): Facilitación que Transforma: Construyendo Comunidades Virtuales / Transformative Facilitation: Building Virtual Communities | VAWnet](#)

Resources

- **2024 SAAM Proclamation Sample**
 - Sexual Assault Awareness Month is a time to draw attention to the prevalence of sexual assault and educate individuals and communities about how to prevent it. Use this proclamation as a clear declaration to join advocates and communities across the country in taking action to prevent sexual violence.
 - For more information visit: [SAAM 2024 Proclamation \(nsvrc.org\)](https://nsvrc.org)
- **Awareness Highlights: Building Connected Communities for SAAM 2024** (April 2024)
 - The Awareness Highlights blog post will uplift NSVRC's theme for SAAM 2024, building connected communities. The blog will highlight relevant resources and opportunities to get involved for SAAM 2024.
 - Available at: [Awareness Blog | Domestic Violence Awareness Project \(dvawareness.org\)](https://dvawareness.org)
- **PreventIPV Tool of the Month: Building Bridges Across the California Ecosystem to Prevent Gender Based Violence** (April 2024)
 - Throughout April, [PreventIPV.org](https://preventipv.org) will highlight *Building Bridges Across the California Ecosystem to Prevent Gender-Based Violence* by VALOR US and partners as the prevention tool of the month to highlight tangible steps toward building connected communities.
 - Available at: [IPV Prevention Materials Inventory | Prevent IPV](https://preventipv.org)
- **TAQ: How can domestic and sexual violence advocates center health equity for Black women in our work? (September 2021)** (NRCDV)
 - Health is a basic human right and need. The September TA Question of the Month shares select highlights from a paper on health equity co-authored by staff at the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence and National Sexual Violence Resource Center.
 - Available at: [How can domestic and sexual violence advocates center health equity for Black women in our work? \(vawnet.org\)](https://vawnet.org)
- **National Organizations of Asian and Pacific Islanders Ending Sexual Violence Curricula**

- Downloadable curriculum for Child Sexual Abuse, Youth Sexual Exploitations, and Sexual Violence
- Available at: [NAPIESV | National Organization of Asians and Pacific Islanders Ending Sexual Violence](#)
- **SAAM 2022: Leading with the HERstory: Without Black Women There Is No Movement (April 2022)** (NRCDV)-
 - Even before its official declaration, Sexual Assault Awareness Month was about both awareness and prevention of sexual assault, harassment, and abuse. From the civil rights movement to the founding of the first rape crisis centers to national legislation and beyond, the roots of SAAM run deep. From then until now, Black women have been and remain the leaders of the movement to end gender-based violence. Without Black women there is no movement.
 - Available at: [SAAM 2022: Leading with the HERstory: Without Black Women There Is No Movement | Domestic Violence Awareness Project \(dvawareness.org\)](#)
- **Collaborate with community partners.**
 - In order to build the capacity of parents, teachers, and other community members to identify and respond to signs of emotional abuse among teens, domestic violence organizations need to have strong partnerships with schools, faith communities, cultural community centers, and other youth-serving organizations. These organizational partnerships can also provide great opportunities to connect with local youth leaders in your community! For strategies to engage parents, schools, and other youth-serving organizations in dating violence prevention and healthy relationship skill-building, check out the [Prevent IPV | Tools for Social Change](#)
- **The Runaway & Homeless Youth and Relationship Violence Toolkit**
 - Updated, redesigned, and released in 2022, NRCDV is happy to share this toolkit, developed by and for advocates in the runaway and homeless youth (RHY) and domestic and sexual assault (DV/SA) field to help service providers better address relationship violence with runaway and homeless youth.
 - Available at: [The Runaway and Homeless Youth Downloadable Toolkit - NRCDV](#)
- **SAAM 2021: Uplifting Black Healing and Well-Being in Online Spaces (April 2021)** (NRCDV)
 - This Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM), the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence is supporting the National Sexual Violence Resource Center's call to build online spaces that foster healthy relationships, connectedness, and healing. This year's campaign explores how we can work together to prevent sexual violence and

build the world we want to live in by promoting a culture of consent, keeping kids safe online, and building healthy online communities.

- Available at: [SAAM 2021: Uplifting Black Healing and Well-Being in Online Spaces | Domestic Violence Awareness Project \(dvawareness.org\)](#)

- **PreventIPV Newsletter: SAAM Reflections – Healing Our Communities is Prevention** (May 2021) (NRCDV)
 - As we look back on Sexual Assault Awareness Month, the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence reflects on the National Sexual Violence Resource Center's call to build safe online spaces that are free from harassment and abuse. As more of our time is spent in virtual spaces, we have seen how online communities can be a powerful tool to promote connectedness, activism, and healing justice. This issue of the PreventIPV newsletter features tools that highlight community building as a key strategy for prevention. It includes resources to promote connection and care by building communities that foster healing, resilience, and joy, both online and off.
 - Available at: [Spring 2021 Newsletter: SAAM Reflections - Healing Our Communities is Prevention | Prevent IPV](#)
- **TA Bundle: Community Care & Resilience** (July 2021)
 - This Technical Assistance (TA) Bundle includes TA and training resources from NRCDV to support those who wish to invest in healing-centered community care. This approach nurtures resilient and equitable communities where those most marginalized can thrive. It fosters collective healing and liberation.
 - Available at: [TA Bundle: Community Care & Resilience | VAWnet](#)
- **How are pandemic-era lessons impacting the ways we prevent sexual violence?** (July 2021)
 - Meeting the immediate needs of the community in the pandemic has a lot to do with preventing sexual violence. The July 2021 TAQ explores the ways in which sexual violence prevention work has shifted in response to lessons learned from COVID-19.
 - Available at: [How are pandemic-era lessons impacting the ways we prevent sexual violence? \(vawnet.org\)](#)
- **Back to Basics: Partnering with Survivors and Communities to Promote Health Equity at the Intersections of Sexual and Intimate Partner Violence** (September 2021) (NRCDV)

- This paper makes connections between health equity and our work to prevent sexual and intimate partner violence. It centers the stories of survivors at the intersections of systemic racism, violence, and oppression. It explores ways to build both individual and organizational capacity to address health inequity. And, it offers a call to action for those ready to commit to health equity in their gender-based violence prevention work.
- Available at: <https://vawnet.org/material/back-basics-partnering-survivors-andcommunities-promote-health-equity-intersections>

Need help? Discussing dating violence and abuse is never easy, which is why [LevelsRespect.org](#), [National Domestic Violence Hotline](#), and [StrongHearts Native Hotline](#) ([Visit disclaimer page](#)) are available for anyone who needs support. Should you or someone you know need help talking about dating violence or abuse, please reach out to a hotline or helpline for support.\