



Oregon Coalition

Against Domestic & Sexual Violence

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 2

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Our mission:

The Oregon Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence promotes equity and social change in order to end violence for all communities. We seek to transform society by engaging diverse voices, supporting the self-determination of survivors and providing leadership for advocacy efforts.



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Are Your Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month Activities Successful?

February ushers in another Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month (TDVAM) and as a prevention specialist I need to make a remarkable confession. I admit that in many ways awareness months make me uneasy. To be sure, TDVAM creates great opportunities for conversations in our communities about safer, healthier teen relationships. While such conversations could initiate a great social movement, awareness months lend themselves to routine, leaving many of us wondering this time next year whether any of our work for TDVAM made a significant impact. There is a way, however, to energize TDVAM, focus our efforts, increase effectiveness, and demonstrate the value of our work to stakeholders, our target audiences, and even ourselves. Beyond the catchy slogans, viral videos, and creative outputs, we must ensure that all our awareness and prevention efforts include predictable, measurable outcomes. By developing our TDVAM activities with clearly defined objectives and engaging in a little evaluation, we can increase the value of our engagement, drive desired outcomes, and share and replicate success.



Many celebrated examples of social campaigns have withered and died solely because they failed to identify what it was they hoped to accomplish or how they would define success. In the same way, many TDVAM programs fail to measure outputs beyond conversations, likes on a social media page, or the extent of participation in events. In order to convert attention into awareness and actionable outcomes, we must begin by creating programs with the end in mind. What do we want to cause, change, inspire, build, or organize? TDVAM gives us an incredible opportunity to start with the question: once we have their attention, what are we going to do with it? It also provides an opportunity to practice evaluation of our program performance and outcomes.

This isn't a new idea, nor is it rocket science. These are the very basic principles of how advertising and marketing are used to create successful businesses. Establishing goals for TDVAM activities and gathering relevant data before starting allows us to analyze a number of outcomes for months following the campaign. Changes in teen knowledge and

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awareness can be measured with pre/post surveys and interviews. Community buy-in can be measured by the number of new collaborations or the amount of supporting donations. Overall effectiveness may be measured in the number of reported TDV incidents before and after the campaign, keeping in mind that increased awareness often increases disclosure. By creating programs with the desired outcomes in mind and using basic evaluation methods to refine our efforts, we are able to learn what works and ensure the introduction of rousing initiatives each and every time.

If you are at all like me, the excitement and energy to get started can sometimes outpace the preparation and facilitation of measurable outcomes, and we soon find ourselves in program disillusionment. Fortunately, work with teens lends itself well to adapting on the fly, and a little process evaluation can determine how various factors impact the performance of programs once underway. Process evaluation allows us to assess levels of campaign collaboration, the reach and clarity of campaign messages, and the relevance of those messages. Assessments for these metrics may include partner surveys, teen focus groups, and observation of the extent and frequency of message replication in the community. Fine tuning through process evaluation can improve the relevance of our programming, refine the focus and caliber of our campaign facilitation, and improve the mechanisms we use for outreach and communication. It helps us maintain continuous quality improvement of our efforts to raise awareness and increases the potential of achieving desired outcomes.

By using analysis and adaptation, evaluation of TDVAM activities will foster greater creativity, innovation, and efficiency in our outreach and activities. In my own prevention practice I have become keenly aware that prevention programs driven by data and inspired by insight, not guesswork, outperform any program driven only by great ideas. Evaluation, analyzation, research, and learning create exemplary programs that have greater potential for significant community impact. In tandem with better TDVAM program results, it is relevant to note that "data and evaluation" is also the language spoken by funders and decision makers that sanction our programs. By using evaluation, TDVAM outcomes can be presented in such a way that merits support and justifies larger budgets while allowing for replication and implementation by others. In the end, it is this marriage of data, evaluation, and creativity that also saves time, energy, and money in the design of social campaigns and awareness months. During TDVAM, as we wrestle for the attention and awareness of area youth, evaluation can help us better tell our story in a way that is consumable, shareable, and quantifiably successful.

-Ray Dinkins is the prevention coordinator for Women's Crisis Support Team (WCST) of Josephine County. WCST's Prevention Team facilitates school-based violence prevention groups and supports a Youth Action Team in the county. Ray is passionate about developing youth leaders in violence prevention and engaging communities in relevant and innovative ways.

Black History Month: Cultivating Welcoming Communities

In honor of Black History Month, we're featuring the following piece from Tillamook County Women's Resource Center. As each of our communities across the state grapples with modern day racism and what it means to become welcoming communities for all people, we find

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VACANT

Two At-Large Members

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Are you interested in joining the Oregon Coalition team as a board member? Contact Vanessa Timmons for more information.

inspiration in the sustained and creative work of our sister programs as well as partners such as Rural Organizing Project.

Thanks to energy generated during recent Conversations on Race events, several Tillamook County Women's Resource Center (TCWRC) staff members are joining with others in the community with plans to draft a resolution for consideration by the Tillamook County Board of Commissioners that would identify the county as a community that honors diversity. "Our hope is to contribute to the creation of a safer, more inclusive and welcoming Tillamook County," said Romy Carver, TCWRC education and outreach program manager. "The emphasis is on all humans being equal."

The Women's Resource Center's work is based on the premise that oppression is at the root of all violence, and that removing oppression from all facets of society is a big step toward eliminating violence.

Momentum for the resolution celebrating and protecting diversity began to gather in early September following Portland State University professor Walidah Imarisha's presentation of a timeline of Black history in Oregon. The Rural Organizing Project, Oregon Cultural Trust, National Endowment for the Humanities, and Oregon Humanities sponsored the event. The Tillamook County Women's Resource Center, Tillamook County Citizens for Human Dignity, and the Bay City Arts Center hosted the presentation.

In a guest piece posted on the Tillamook County Pioneer online news website titled "Conversation Project on Black history in Oregon revealed 'mind-blowing' facts," local artist, writer, and teacher Helen Hill, who attended the Sept. 9 Conversation Project event, wrote the following:

Last night at the Bay City Arts Center, more than 60 people had their minds pretty much blown after a presentation by author and Portland State University professor Walidah Imarisha entitled, "Why Aren't There More Black People in Oregon?"

What was so mind-blowing? Just the facts, please, and there was an avalanche of facts presented in a compelling, interactive way. Did you know, for instance, that the State of Oregon had more Ku Klux Klan members per capita than any state in the Deep South? Did you know Oregon was the only state in the US to actually embed a constitutional law banning Blacks from entering our "fair" state? The feds eventually had to intercede, stating Oregon's law was egregiously out of line.

The hidden history of active, violent, and virulent Black oppression in the very neighborhoods we now inhabit, and not so very long ago, was, as an audience participant stated, "nauseating." It is in 2010 statistics that the unemployment rate for Black people in Oregon is double that of White, and



Interested in hosting your own conversation? The **Conversation Project** of the Oregon Humanities is a low-cost program open to nonprofit organizations that provides trained facilitators on a variety of topics.

Unprecedented Interest in Anti-Oppression

We have been pleasantly overwhelmed by enthusiasm for our Anti-Oppression Train the Trainer event! The outpouring of interest resulted in a full training far earlier than we'd expected, with all seven regions represented and over one third of all member programs participating. There are 30 folks attending the February training. With a waitlist of nearly 20 member program staff, not to mention over 30 people from partner organizations, dreams and plans for another train-the-trainer are already underway. If you're interested and have not yet let us know (or if you need support more generally in the areas of anti-oppression and equity), please contact Equity and Inclusion Coordinator Choya Adkison-Stevens at choya@ocadsv.org.

Sundance Film Festival Takes a Look at Rape

The Hunting Ground focuses on rape on US campuses, institutional responses, and the effects on survivors and their families.

In support of campus sexual assault survivors, the **Monument Quilt** was brought to Sundance. The Quilt is a collection of stories from survivors and advocates arranged on quilt squares.

The Hunting Ground premiered January 23rd and the trailer can be viewed online [here](#).

Black babies are 50 percent more likely to die than White babies in the State of Oregon.

So what do we do about it? That was also part of the conversation. And that is a conversation that must be continued. But this was a great place to start. There is good news too: many racial justice organizations have recently been established throughout the state and they are growing.

The Women's Resource Center and other groups held a second gathering to continue the conversation on race in November. This time, Jessica Campbell of the Rural Organizing Project led the discussion, which was sponsored by the Tillamook County Pioneer Museum and again held at the Bay City Arts Center.

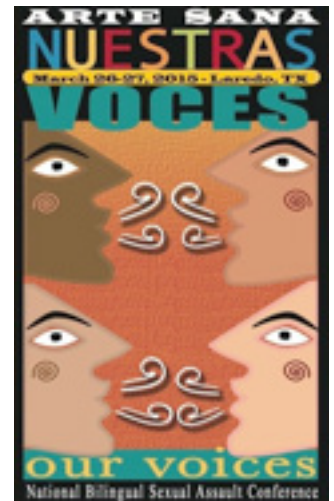
Those interested in participating in future talks on race in Tillamook County can learn more and stay in the loop by contacting Romy Carver at 503-842-8294 x. 209, or romy@tcwrc.net.

Arte Sana Nuestras Voces (In Our Own Voices) Conference, March 26-27, 2015

Arte Sana means "art heals" in Spanish. This is the approach and vision of this amazing and wonderful organization that has promoted artful healing images and ideas since its inception in 2004. After a decade in the making we were fortunate to have had Laura Zarate, founder and executive director of Arte Sana, provide a keynote speech at our 2013 annual conference. Her speech brought awareness of cultural sensitivity and the importance of bi-cultural and bilingual voices as a basic necessity of serving individuals, families, and communities coping with barriers, disparities, and lack of resources.

The organization has created and provided many visuals as tools to promote technical assistance and support for sexual assault advocates around the nation. The topics of these creations include victim blaming, supporting children affected by sexual assault, best practices for supporting Latino communities affected by sexual violence, the leadership of Latina advocates, and best practices for bilingual advocates working with Latina immigrant survivors.

ALAS (Latina Alliance Against Sexual Violence) is an online workgroup convened by Arte Sana (ALAS spells "wings" in Spanish!). The group is composed of Latinas who come together to address the difficult issues of sexual violence in their communities. ALAS will be meeting in person at the Nuestras Voces conference! Please consider sending your Latina or bilingual advocates to this great experience that is culturally inclusive and healing through art.



This year the conference will be near the Texas border in Laredo in solidarity with and recognition of immigrant child survivors coping with detention and historical trauma.

For more information, click [here](#) or visit the [Arte Sana](#) website!

-Diana Camarillo, Sexual Violence Program Coordinator

DID YOU KNOW?

Fair housing: protections and resources for your clients.

Disability, as a protected class defined by fair housing law, is a three-pronged protection:

- One can't be discriminated against in housing (denied, harassed, charged higher rates, etc.) simply because s/he has a disability.
- Those with disabilities have the right to ask for a reasonable accommodation (RA) or reasonable modification (RM).*
- Multi-family housing built since 1991 must meet seven minimum accessibility standards.**

For more information on this protected class, visit:
www.FHCO.org/disability.htm

*There's a lot more detail to know about requesting and considering an RA or RM. Visit www.FHCO.org/pdfs/RA-RMinfo.pdf

**Learn about the design and construction accessibility requirements at www.FHCO.org/dc.htm

The Fair Housing Council is a non-profit serving Oregon and SW Washington.

Anyone may call the free Fair Housing Hotline at 800-424-3247 x. 2, or visit www.FHCO.org.

FAPA Documents Now Available Online

The Oregon Judicial Department recently announced that Family Abuse Prevention Act (FAPA) **protective order documents** are now available online. This new system allows parties to obtain and fill out documents to apply for, modify, dismiss, or challenge a FAPA order electronically and in advance, although parties must still appear in person at the courthouse to file these documents or attend protective order hearings. This new development might appear to be a win-win for both the courts and the general public, but there are several considerations of which advocates and survivors must be aware.

Technology and Safety Planning

I cannot emphasize enough the importance of ensuring that these forms are accessed from a safe computer (i.e., one that cannot be accessed by an abuser either physically or through electronic means like spyware). The process of escaping an abuser can be extremely dangerous, and an abuser finding out that their victim(s) are planning to file for a protective order can precipitate an escalation of their violence, sometimes with fatal consequences. This warning is of course not intended to blame victims in any way if their abusers find out about their plans and retaliate. Additionally, advocates can only do so much, but a little safety planning and education about tech safety issues can be life-saving. I have submitted a request to the Oregon Judicial Department to include a brief safety warning on its new FAPA documents webpage, but have not received a response as of this writing.

Data Privacy

In addition to the potential risks from abusers, there is the broader issue of data privacy. These forms often contain highly sensitive information about the petitioner, which can now be saved digitally. If the content of these documents falls into the wrong hands, either at the time of filing or in the future (e.g. if a survivor's computer is sold/lost/stolen), a malicious third party could use the information for the purposes of identity theft, blackmail, defamation, and/or harassment. If someone opts to use this method of filing for a protective order, they should ensure that they protect these documents as they would tax returns or banking statements.

Having these forms available online will hopefully speed up the restraining order adjudication process, which will plausibly enable both advocates and the court system to serve the interests of survivors and the general public more efficiently and effectively. However, this advantage is not without its potential risks, and I believe that we are all better off knowing these up front. In closing, I'd like to extend my deep gratitude to domestic violence legal advocates throughout the state and the Oregon Judicial Department for their efforts to increase access to the legal system and for helping facilitate survivors' journeys in attaining safety, justice, and self-determination.

-Jonathan Gates, Social Media and Events Coordinator

*Jon is available to provide training and technical assistance to all OCADSV **member programs** on technology safety, website management, and administrative technology capacity-building. He can be reached at jonathan@ocadsv.org or 503-230-1951 x. 302.*