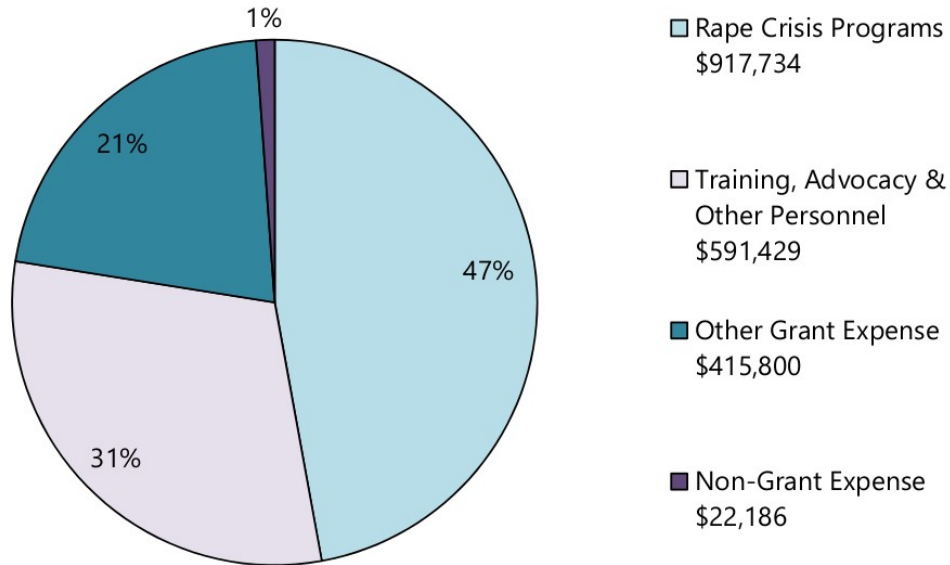




• 2018 NYSCASA Expense Summary •



• Message from the Executive Director •

NYSCASA experienced a great deal of positive growth in 2018. We engaged in organizational soul-searching to answer important questions: *Why do we do the work we do? What do we want to accomplish? Does what we offer and how we offer our services achieve the desired outcomes?*

We focused on what sexual assault victims and survivors, especially victims and survivors who are members of marginalized groups and therefore more vulnerable to victimization, need and want: healing.

We clarified our vision: *We cultivate beloved communities that recognize, embrace and value the dignity of all, promote equality and allow every person to fulfill their full potential—in environments that thrive and are free from oppression, and where justice, freedom, and peace are present in the lives of all people.*

We acknowledged the ways existing systems often do not work well for victims and survivors, and we encouraged options that are more survivor-centered. We cannot end sexual violence without ending all forms of oppression, and we integrated this idea into our internal work, our services and resources provided to others, and our collaborative efforts.

—Joanne Zannoni, Executive Director

- **Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP) ●**

In 2018, NYSCASA's SASP awarded more than \$600,000 to 51 rape crisis programs to provide direct services to victims and survivors of sexual assault throughout New York State.

- **Enhancing Organizational Capacity ●**

NYSCASA focused on developing our organizational capacity through staff and volunteer recruitment, establishing new internal reporting procedures, and participating in trainings on organizational trauma and resiliency.

- **NYS PREA Project: Supporting Incarcerated Survivors ●**

NYSCASA's support of the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) continued in 2018 through a shift in funding from the Division of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) to the Office of Victim Services (OVS).

Two rape crisis programs joined the New York State PREA Project in 2018, with one program coordinating the statewide hotline. New York State has the most comprehensive PREA-related hotline in the nation, connecting incarcerated survivors of sexual violence with PREA Centers who deliver crisis services, set up continued support, and assist survivors in submitting reports of sexual harassment, abuse, and assault to the Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS). NYSCASA has helped these programs to engage with their local jails and also delivered an introductory PREA training for an additional service provider and local jail representatives.

NYSCASA is proud of the work that has been established through the PREA Project and is glad to support the still-evolving project as it expands throughout the state to provide services to all incarcerated survivors.

- **Enough is Enough Training and Technical Assistance ●**

NYSCASA continues to provide technical assistance and training to rape crisis programs and college campuses to implement New York State's "Enough is Enough" legislation through the New York State Training and Technical Assistance Center.

The New York State Training and Technical Assistance Center is a joint partnership between NYSCASA and the New York City Alliance Against Sexual Assault and supports the efforts of rape crisis and sexual violence programs (RCSVs) who work with victims and survivors of sexual violence in New York State, with a focus on assistance and services provided to college campuses through the "Enough is Enough" program. This initiative is funded by the New York State Department of Health through the Federal Preventative Health and Health Service Block Grant.

● Creating Partnerships and Policy for Healing and Prevention ●

NYSCASA is proud to have had a part in advancing survivor-centered policy in New York State, including extending the storage timeline for forensic sexual assault kits from 30 days to 20 years, comprehensive workplace sexual harassment prevention policy, and a sexual assault survivors' bill of rights.

In collaboration with the Center for Women in Government and Civil Society at the University at Albany, NYSCASA hosted a two-day interactive training on the intersections of policy, oppression, and survivor healing in May 2018. First, participants learned about legislative advocacy, oppression, implicit bias, and healing options for survivor justice. The training also included a presentation from the New York Campaign for Alternatives to Isolated Confinement (CAIC) on solitary confinement and its impact on incarcerated individuals. Led by Selena Bennett-Chambers, Director of Public Policy, participants later met with policy makers at the Capitol to advocate for survivor-centered policy.

In 2018, NYSCASA also hosted two Twitter chats in collaboration with RALIANCE. The first chat, #EndSV1Gen, focused on what it would take to end sexual violence in one generation. Themes that emerged included unity, believing survivors, teaching consent early, changing social norms and culture, and the intersections of sexual violence and other forms of oppression. Our second chat, #PREAChat, also in collaboration with RALIANCE and the South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, focused on supporting incarcerated survivors through implementation of PREA standards, the limits of PREA, and centering the voices of incarcerated survivors in discussions of sexual violence prevention and response.

● Primary Prevention Efforts ●

NYSCASA continued to provide pass-through funding and technical assistance to two rape crisis center prevention pilot projects who are engaged in innovative and evidence-informed prevention work. In 2018, these pilot projects provided sexual violence prevention training to over 1,400 community members, including youth, incarcerated individuals, educators, parents, and correctional personnel.

NYSCASA also supported prevention efforts outside of the two pilot projects. In July 2018, we planned and facilitated a prevention-focused regional coalition meeting for our western region rape crisis member programs to foster greater networking, peer learning, and peer support for prevention staff.

In December 2018, we hosted two webinars with Strong Oak Lefebvre, executive director and cofounder of Visioning B.E.A.R. Circle Intertribal Coalition, Inc. These webinars introduced participants to violence prevention approaches based on Indigenous values and examined methods of evaluating culturally relevant prevention efforts.

● Building Connections: The Sexual Assault and Mental Health Project ●

Building Connections presented workshops at numerous conferences in 2018, including the Battered Mothers Custody Conference and NYAPRS' Dignity, Recovery and Justice for All conferences. Chrys Ballerano, Senior Director of Training and Collaboration, served as a panelist at the screening of *Resilience* at Family Services in Poughkeepsie in support of the Resilient Child Fund.

In December 2018, NYSCASA and the Mental Health Association of New York State (MHANYS) co-hosted a one-day training entitled, "Creating Resilience from ACEs to Joyful Advocacy!" The training included a performance by Donna Jenson, author of *Healing My Life from Incest to Joy*, and several afternoon workshops led by Donna Jenson, Chrys Ballerano, Deb Faust, Luz Marquez, Tracy Frisch, and Sharon Lastique. Participants learned about the myriad ways in which survivors can access healing, from writing, mindfulness, and music, to working with service providers that offer culturally relevant and trauma-informed services.

Throughout 2018, Building Connections continued to support rape crisis programs, trauma taskforces, and allied organizations with technical assistance, training, resources and distribution of their announcements. Building Connections also served in an advisory role to the New York State Trauma Informed Network as the group developed a website to provide trauma-informed resources to professionals and community members.

● Strengthening Systems Response to Sexual Assault ●

NYSCASA hosted three webinars on self-care and vicarious trauma, the survivorship of women of color, and developing creative partnerships beyond law enforcement to strengthen systems response. These webinars reached over 200 people. NYSCASA also continues to facilitate quarterly meetings for sexual assault exam coordinators, bringing together state agencies and SAE program coordinators from across the state.

● Responding to Proposed Title IX Changes ●

In November 2018, the US Department of Education proposed changes to Title IX. In December 2018, NYSCASA collaborated with End Rape on Campus to offer a webinar reviewing the proposed changes to Title IX in light of New York's "Enough is Enough" legislation and provided advice for attendees to leverage their professional experience on collegiate violence and provide feedback on the proposed changes.

● Gratitude and Thanks ●

2018 Donors

Ralph Cataldo ● Deb Faust ● Mark St. Louis ● Tides Foundation

2018 Members

In addition to our 83 member rape crisis programs throughout New York State, as well as the NYSCASA Board of Directors, the following individuals and organizations became NYSCASA members in 2018:

Heather Austin ● Elena Beharry ● Rachel Bell ● Lisa Feldman
Katherine Woodhouse-McGerald ● Mandy Moore ● Lorena Ospina
Cavanaugh Quick ● Rebecca Roloff ● Anjali Zacharopoulos
Seven Dancers Coalition

2018 Board of Directors

Dee Levy, President ● Tamika Payne, Vice President ● Karol Dean, Treasurer
Deb Faust, Secretary ● Sarah Tubbs ● Kathy Hanlon O'Connell

2018 Staff

Joanne Zannoni, Executive Director
Chrys Ballerano, Senior Director of Collaboration and Training
Josie McPherson, Senior Director of Systems Advocacy
Sandra Siciliano, Senior Director of Finance and Human Resources
Selena Bennett-Chambers, Director of Public Policy
E Bjorkman, PREA Outreach Director
Michelle Carroll, Campus Projects Director
Sarah Podber, Prevention Director
Sana Abdelkarim, SASP Director
"Sam" Sujathi Mitchell, Human Resources Director
Chelsea Miller, Communications Director

NYSCASA received support from: the New York State (NYS) Department of Health; NYS Division of Criminal Justice Services; NYS Office of Mental Health; NYS Office of Victim Services; and Grant No. 2017-SW-AX-0022 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), US Department of Justice Office. The opinions, findings, conclusions, and recommendations expressed are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of any funder.