



# VIRGINIA SEXUAL AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACTION ALLIANCE



## 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

# LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

**presence**  
connected  
aware  
mind open, receptive  
strong (enough) and ready

I was wrapping up a three-month sabbatical in September 2018 when I wrote these words. I remain grateful for that restorative time. The words described my personal state of being. In a moment of synchronicity, they also described the organization to which I was returning...a group of people and organizations coming together in coalition.

Connected. Aware. Open. Receptive. Strong (enough). Ready.

We are grateful to those of you who connected with us over the course of the year—who gave of your talents and your treasure because you believe a world without violence is possible. We thank you for sharing your story, for taking risks, for speaking out. You expanded our awareness; you expanded the future possibilities.

Together, we are strong (enough) to build a world free of sexual and intimate partner violence. This report opens a window into the work we are doing together to make our communities ready (for that better world).

In Peace,  
Kristi VanAudenhove

# AT A GLANCE

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# SURVIVOR ADVOCACY

# IN 2018, WE PROVIDED 171,916 HOURS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ADVOCACY SERVICES AND 109,487 HOURS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE ADVOCACY SERVICES TO SURVIVORS THROUGH OUR HOTLINE.

Our Survivor Advocacy Team continues its growth as a hub of vital services for survivors and our member agencies. In 2018, over 30 sexual and domestic violence agencies used our services as a back-up for their local hotlines. In addition to responding to nearly a thousand requests for information each month, the Hotline Team assisted an average of 250 survivors each month. The Project for the Empowerment of Survivors provided legal services to an average of 50 survivors monthly. Additionally, we provided 24 hour advocacy via the LGBTQ+ helpline and PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act) Hotline.

**Our members report that our hotline services allow them to:**



offer 24-hour coverage



access legal services



access multi-lingual services



focus on community

# JUSTICE

FOR ALL



# AFFIRMING OUR VALUES

In 2018, the Action Alliance released our "Promoting Sexual and Reproductive Health Position Statement." This statement outlines the ways in which sexual and reproductive health, including access to abortion and gender-affirming healthcare, impact the survivors we serve and the communities that we live in.

## PROJECT INVEST

The Improving Criminal Justice Responses (ICJR) Statewide Partnership successfully launched a new learning collaborative called Project INVEST to strategically engage eight Virginia communities through ongoing technical assistance, training, and resource development. The learning collaborative is an 18-month process that brings local teams of legal aid attorneys, victim witness, sexual and domestic violence advocates, law enforcement, and systems partners to the table to provide tailored support for consistent and effective community-based responses to violence.

## VIRTUAL LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY WEEK

In 2018, the Policy Team reached record levels of involvement for our Legislative Advocacy Day by implementing a Virtual Legislative Advocacy Week (#VLAW18) which was accompanied by a new Virtual Advocate's Toolkit and a new legislative advocacy guide for the public. These items, along with our session crossover report, final session report, and policy update blog can be found on our website under public policy, legislative session.



Samaritan House's Courtney Pierce with our Policy Director Jonathan Yglesias at NNEDV's National Lobby Day.

## MEDICAID EXPANSION

As the General Assembly worked (down to the wire!) to adopt a new budget, we joined forces with members and partners to center survivors in the healthcare expansion debate, launching a week-long targeted messaging campaign (#SupportSurvivors and #ExpandMedicaidVA). While we were unable to secure the final \$1.5 million per year to close the funding gap for SDVAs, we will be working with Commonwealth Strategy Group and state partners to advocate for increased funding for sexual and domestic violence agencies statewide.



# MOVEMENT BUILDING





## DO SOMETHING

The Action Alliance launched the DO SOMETHING Toolkit, a resource to support trained DO YOU facilitators in launching a collaborative community-level prevention project with the youth in their DO YOU groups. The DO SOMETHING Toolkit contains information on youth organizing strategies, frameworks, and evaluation. The online platform allows Action Alliance staff to provide updated and new resources so that DO YOU facilitators can always find relevant information and tools for their programs. Find out more at [doyoutools.org](http://doyoutools.org).

## PROJECT ECHO

We launched the nation's first ECHO focused on sexual violence, "Sexual Violence Prevention in Action ECHO." Started at the University of New Mexico, the TeleECHO is a revolutionary medical education and care model aimed at increasing workforce capacity and reducing health disparities. At the heart of the ECHO model is its "all teach, all learn" lifelong learning and guided practice model to deliver training and peer-to-peer learning through videoconferencing that connects experts across the U.S. We are excited to be among the very few sites experimenting with this model for social change projects. We see Project ECHO as a vehicle to deliver training, technical assistance, and opportunities for peer-to-peer learning for preventionists in Virginia.



## UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS LEARNING COLLABORATIVE

The UPLC launched in August 2018 with a total of 20 participating Sexual and Domestic Violence Agencies across Virginia. Agencies are engaged in an 18-month process to enhance their services to unserved, underserved, and inadequately served populations in their areas through trauma-informed and culturally relevant practices.



# COMMUNITY

# JUSTICE.HEALING.LIBERATION.

We hosted our Justice. Healing. Liberation. conference on May 2-4 in Glen Allen, Virginia. In attendance were 140 advocates, law enforcement professionals, preventionists, attorneys, case managers, and more! We held 32 workshops presented by over 40 presenters, a panel of 5 incredible storytellers, and 3 inspiring keynotes. Our conference included daily yoga sessions, two passionate performances by the Latin Ballet of Virginia, and a fundraising paint night hosted by Lynn Black from Paint for Good.



Staff at our 2018 Youth Summit.

## SHOWING UP FOR JUSTICE

Our members and staff supported the March for Black Women, for the second year, with a contribution to Black Women's Blueprint and through our participation in the march. The Action Alliance was also part of the national walk-out in support of Dr. Ford during the Kavanaugh hearings. Additionally, we hosted our first Youth Summit and participated in the youth Justice Parade organized by RISE for Youth in support of non-carceral alternatives for youth.



MSW students at a 2018 (em)Power Challenge event.

## THE (em)POWER CHALLENGE

We successfully launched a trial run of the (em)POWER CHALLENGE, a new effort aimed at building community and raising funds for local Sexual and Domestic Violence Agencies. Nearly 30 teams gathered for events across the state, raising funds for 21 local agencies and for the Action Alliance. Net proceeds were approximately \$1,100 for local agencies and just over \$2,000 for the Action Alliance.

“[The conference] opened my eyes to struggles our clients go through and how we can help them cope with it.”

-Conference attendee

# OUR SUPPORTERS AND DONORS

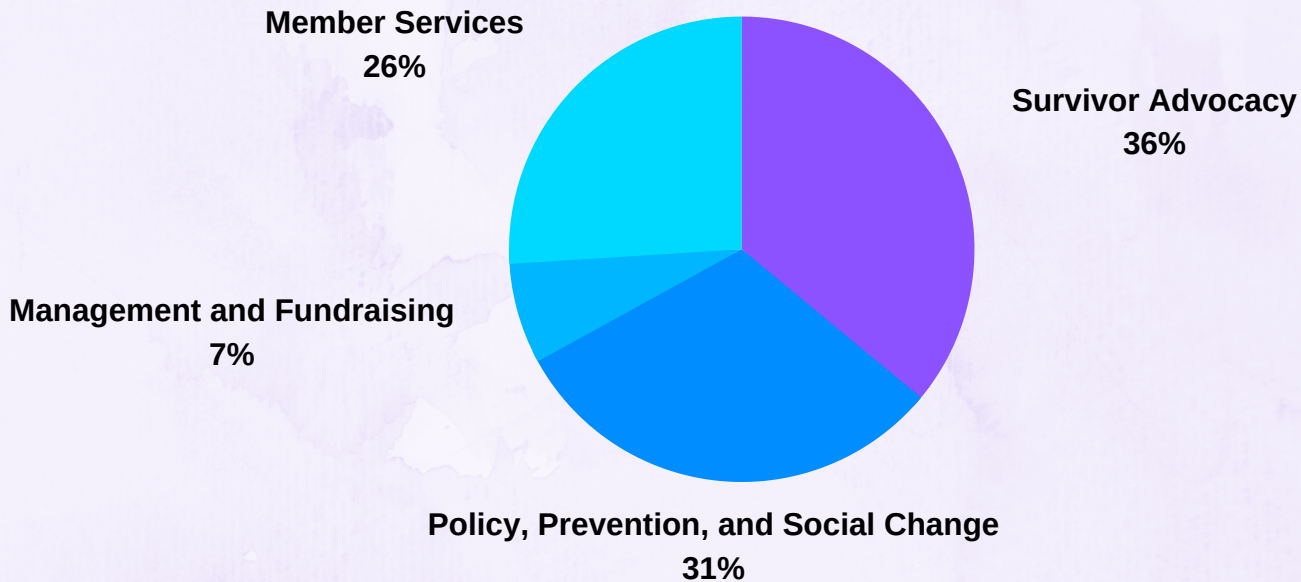
The Action Alliance appreciates each and every donation we receive. Thanks to the generous contributions of our donors, the Action Alliance is able to provide 24/7 support to survivors through the statewide hotline, advocate for public policies that protect and help survivors, and offer trainings and capacity-building support to our member agencies. Each gift is an investment in the movement to end violence. Thank you!

## **Our work was made possible by...**

- the 65 member Sexual and Domestic Violence Agencies and 23 Affiliate organizations from across Virginia who are also engaged in the work to address sexual and intimate partner violence;
- the 77 Lifetime members whose \$1,000 contributions have made it possible for the Action Alliance to respond quickly and boldly to emerging needs;
- the 27 Movement Builders whose monthly donations sustain our policy, prevention, and social change work;
- the 45 individual members and 160 contributors who form a strong foundation for the future of the coalition;
- the 30 attorneys who offered deep discounts on their usual fees as they provided assistance to 35 individuals and families accessing legal services vital to their health and safety;
- our 10 Act Honor Hope corporate and individual sponsors who helped us recognize the great work of leaders who have taken extraordinary action to end sexual and domestic violence;
- our foundation, state and federal funding partners whose grants and partnerships help us to support thousands of survivors each year and build a radically hopeful future where all Virginians can thrive.

*If you have any questions or concerns about your contribution or supporting the Action Alliance, please feel free to contact Coalition Development Director Elizabeth Wong at [ewong@vsdvalliance.org](mailto:ewong@vsdvalliance.org) or 804.377.0335.*

# FINANCIALS



## 2018 Highlights:

- Revenues for the year totaled \$3,221,815; Expenses totaled \$3,179,692
- The Action Alliance is primarily funded by state and federal grants and contracts, which totaled \$2,598,206 in 2018
- The Action Alliance had a positive change in net assets for 2018; cash and cash equivalents at year-end totaled \$275,559 which is an amount sufficient to cover basic operating costs for an estimated 45 days. The Governing Body has adopted a plan to increase this cash reserve to an amount sufficient to cover 90 days.
- Your membership and contributions are vital to the work of the Action Alliance and to the long-term financial health of the organization. Thank you for your support!

Copies of our audited financial statements and 990 (tax return) are available on request. We are also happy to speak with you about your plans for giving to the Action Alliance. Contact Coalition Development Director [ewong@vsdvalliance.org](mailto:ewong@vsdvalliance.org) with your request.

# WE HAVE A COMPELLING VISION FOR A WORLD WHERE ALL OF US THRIVE.

Violence, harassment, and oppression are all around us, but it doesn't have to be that way. A better world is within reach. The time has arrived to make this future happen and we choose all of us to flourish in this radiant new world.

## WE SEEK A RADICALLY HOPEFUL FUTURE WHERE:

- people are free and have what they need to reach their full potential.
- relationships, families, and communities are healthy, equitable, nourishing, and joyful.
- government, institutions, and systems are rooted in equity and justice.
- all decisions are grounded in whether they will benefit our future descendants, and sustain our beautiful earth.

*In this future, fear and anger give way to regenerative\*, transformative love; oppression and exploitation give way to liberation and justice.*

## LIBERATION GETS US TO A WORLD WHERE:

- all of us are free and supported in reaching our full potential.
- the full humanity and dignity of all people are recognized and embraced.
- we operate from love and curiosity.
- all living things and our ancestors are honored as sacred and interconnected.
- communities thrive and are sustained by nourishing human connection.

## JUSTICE LOOKS LIKE A WORLD WHERE:

- communities that are most affected by policies and decisions are at the center of the decision-making and have ample influence and representation to make change happen.
- individuals, families, and communities are able to determine their own path toward wholeness.
- harm is addressed through a survivor-centered focus on accountability and reparations with a goal toward wholeness and restoration.

*\*Regeneration: renewal, revival, and/or restoration of a person's spirit; new growth.*

# OUR 2018 STAFF

Executive Director: Kristi VanAudenhove  
Assistant to Executive Director: Linda Winston

## **SURVIVOR ADVOCACY TEAM**

*Statewide Hotline, LGBTQ Helpline, and PREA Hotline*

Michelle Curry, Survivor Advocacy Director

Reed Bohn, Hotline Manager

Charmaine Francois, Outreach Coordinator/Hotline Crisis Services Specialist

Emily Robinson, Volunteer Coordinator/Senior Hotline Crisis Services Specialist

Kristin Vamenta, IT Coordinator/Senior Hotline Crisis Services Specialist

Hotline Staff: Andrea Baker-Jones, Kit Conely, Bishakha Dhamala, Cortney Flynn, Jennifer Harrison, Shirnell Lewis, Itzel Patino, Laurel Winsor

*Project for the Empowerment of Survivors*

Carmen Williams, PES Project Manager

Caitlin Bradley, PES Attorney

Cathy Maxfield-Coleman, PES Legal Advocate

Janice Craft, PES Attorney

Interns: Brittany Barnett, Kate Miceli, Kendall von Michalofski, LeGrand Northcutt, Kara Powell, Cassidy White

## **MEMBER SERVICES TEAM**

*Training, Resources, Evaluation, Finance, Member Services*

Angela Blount, Member Services Co-Director

Amanda Pohl, Member Services Co-Director

Cortney Calixte, Training and Member Services Coordinator

Debbie Haynes, Operations and I/T Coordinator

Tamara Mason, Data Systems & Resources Coordinator

Kathy Pierce, Grants Coordinator

Laurel Winsor, Events Coordinator

## **SOCIAL CHANGE TEAM**

*Prevention, Communications, Movement Strategy*

Kate McCord, Movement Strategy & Communications Director

Laura Chow Reeve, Youth Engagement Coordinator

Kat Monusky, Prevention & Community Wellness Director

Kristen Pritchard, Healthy Relationships & Sexuality Coordinator

Katie Moffitt, UPLC Coach

Interns: Miae Bok, Maryum Elnasseh, Phillip Hong, Taylor Davis, Robin Sawyer

## **POLICY TEAM**

*Policy, Systems Advocacy, Member Engagement*

Jonathan Yglesias, Policy Director

Ruth Micklem, Systems Advocacy Coordinator

Ki'ara Montgomery, Member and Donor Liaison

Intern: Katie Ford



Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence  
**ACTION ALLIANCE**  
1118 W. Main St.  
Richmond, VA 23220



[vsdvalliance.org](http://vsdvalliance.org)