

Annual Report 2015

The Utah Coalition Against Sexual Assault (UCASA)

engages individuals and organizations in local and statewide collaborations to strengthen the effectiveness of sexual violence education, prevention and response in Utah.

About UCASA:

In **1996**, the Directors of Utah's four rape crisis centers joined together, forming a Coalition to "advocate for and facilitate accessible services for rape and sexual assault survivors in the state of Utah, respecting human dignity and promoting the establishment of superior intervention care, to strengthen and encourage issue awareness and sensitivity toward respective unique cultural gender, ethnic, and economic needs".

Today, UCASA continues to provide advocacy, resources, and training for Utah organizations and individuals engaged in sexual violence prevention and response, and empowers survivors and members of underserved, marginalized and oppressed populations to inform and lead the way in transforming community and professional response to those who commit sexual violence and those who are harmed by the consequences. We advocate for public policy measures that will increase resources for sexual violence prevention, support comprehensive and culturally responsive services for survivors, and promote accountability for those who commit sexual offenses.

We offer this Annual Report to highlight a selection of the significant achievements and outcomes of UCASA programs and partnerships in 2015.

We at UCASA are incredibly grateful to our partners, including professionals, community members who care, and most especially survivors who have joined together in the work of confronting sexual violence in all its forms. Demonstrating night and day your commitment to ending sexual violence in Utah by caring for yourselves, for each other, and for those who have been harmed, your combined response and resistance will contribute directly to preventing further sexual violence, exploitation and abuse.

UCASA's work would not be possible with out the tireless commitment and dedication of our Board and Staff:

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Outreach and Operations

Coordinator

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Sexual Assault Response Team

Program Coordinator

Jo'D Petersen

Sexual Assault Services Program

Coordinator

UCASA PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

Public Policy

- UCASA works with community members, service providers, state agencies, and legislators to develop and enact policies that protect victims' rights and increase offender accountability.
 - UCASA staff provided consultation, technical assistance and public education on the during the 2015 legislative session.



Sexual Assault Service Coordination

UCASA assists partner agencies with coordination and delivery of Sexual Assault Counselor Training which includes 40 hours of interactive instruction and skills development on providing trauma-informed and culturally responsive assistance and advocacy for adult and adolescent survivors of all forms of sexual violence, including stalking, online harassment, workplace harassment, dating violence, and intimate partner sexual violence.

- In 2015, UCASA staff coordinated twelve Sexual Assault Counselor Certification trainings in partnership with providers in four urban and three rural communities serving 14 counties and 4 military branches. 201 participants completed the training and received Sexual Assault Counselor Certification.



Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Coordination

- UCASA's SART Coordinator supports the development and sustainability of local multi-disciplinary teams that include police, prosecutors, advocates, medical staff, and social service providers in identifying protocols for delivering consistent, culturally relevant and victim-centered sexual assault response based on the unique needs and resources of their own communities.
 - In 2015 UCASA's SART Coordinator provided training and technical assistance to SARTs at various stages of development in fourteen Utah communities.



Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Coordination

- UCASA's Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Coordinator facilitates bi-annual training for nurses preparing to become SANE certified, on-site skills training for practicing SANEs training on collection, documentation, and presentation of forensic evidence in sexual assault investigation and prosecution.
- The SANE Coordinator also provides technical assistance and consultation via phone, e-mail, and site visits on patient care, evidence collection, SANE development and sustainability, and HIV prophylaxis and treatment protocols for victims of rape and sexual assault.



Community Outreach and Education

- The UCASA staff develops and delivers educational outreach and professional development presentations to Utah communities that increase understanding and responsiveness to the needs of sexual assault survivors, with a focus on serving communities that have historically been marginalized or underserved.
- In 2015 UCASA staff gave community presentations on sexual violence prevention and response to refugee youth and adults from refugee communities through the Human Rights Education Project in collaboration with the Human Rights Commission of the Salt Lake City Mayor's Office on Diversity and Human Rights



Sexual Violence Prevention

- UCASA promotes a public health approach to the primary prevention of rape and sexual assault that works on the individual, community, and societal levels to decrease risk factors and increase protective factors for sexual violence perpetration and victimization.
 - Following the passage of HB286 Sexual Violence Prevention sponsored by Representative Angela Romero with the support of UCASA and statewide partners, the Utah Department of Health, Utah Office of Education and local prevention educators to are developing guidelines for the development and approval of appropriate prevention education materials that shall be presented by school districts to teachers and parents annually effective Fall of 2016, as well as sexual violence prevention education that Districts may choose to provide for students in grades K-6.
- UCASA provides resources, technical assistance, and curriculum to prevention educators, youth serving organizations, parents, and teens working to promote healthy, respectful relationships among youth and their peers.
 - In 2015 UCASA's Prevention Specialist provided training and technical assistance on building community coalitions and identifying effective prevention resources to Salt Lake County Youth Services, State of Utah Department of Education, "La Jefa" Spanish Language radio station, Centro de La Familia, Rape Recovery Center, MAN Utah, New Horizons Crisis Center, New Hope Crisis Center, Safe Harbor, Boys & Girls Club, Centro Hispano.
 - In 2015 UCASA's Prevention Specialist provided educational sessions to college and high school students at YWCA Salt Lake City, Salt Lake Boys and Girls Club, University of Utah, Genesis Corrections Center and Westminster College covering the subjects of Healthy vs. Unhealthy Relationships, Rape Culture, Bystander Intervention and Rape Myths.



FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES 2015

