



# Advocacy and Social Transformation

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# What is the Goal?

- Social Services
- Social Justice
- Social Transformation



# What Does it Mean to Be Advocates?

- *Individual Advocacy*
- *Systems Advocacy*
- *Legislative Advocacy*
- *Administrative Advocacy*

# GIVE YOUR COMMUNITY A VOICE



# History of Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)

- Importance of grass roots advocacy reflecting the needs of communities
- Opportunity to reassess and continue to improve with each Reauthorization
- Immigration provisions since 1994 (VAWA Self-Petition)
- U visa and T visa (2000)
- Culturally and Linguistically Specific Services Program (2005)
- Underserved grant program (2013)



# VAWA 2013 Reauthorization

- Special Criminal DV Jurisdiction in Indian Country
- Provisions for LGBT survivors
- Protection of special immigration remedies and improvements
- Enhanced Campus provisions
- Enhanced access to resources for sexual assault



# Collective Advocacy

- Importance of Solidarity and working as a coalition
- Impact of Real stories
- Research and statistics
- Educating staffers
- Making the Ask





# Other Federal Legislation

- Family Violence Prevention and Services Act (FVPSA) – 1984
- Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) - 1984

# Advocacy at State Level

- STOP, VOCA, and FVPSA State Administrators
  - State Plans
  - Resources for Underserved
- State Coalitions

# Additional Advocacy

- *Systems Advocacy*
- *Administrative Advocacy*

# Improving the Response

- Intersectionality
- Improving the Criminal Justice System Response
  - President's Task Force on 21<sup>st</sup> Century Policing
  - DOJ Guidance on Identifying and Improving Law Enforcement Response to Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence
  - Reentry for Prisoners
  - Addressing the Unintended Consequences of Mandatory Arrest
- Improving Prevention Efforts and Engaging Men

“There must exist a paradigm, a practical model for social change that includes an understanding of ways to transform consciousness that are linked to efforts to transform structures.”

— bell hooks, Killing Rage: Ending Racism