



Advancing Equity. Ending Sexual Violence.

Formerly CALCASA

# VIRTUAL 3-PART SERIES

## Collective Power: Training for Building Community Collaborations

PART 1: August 17, 2021 | 10:00 to 11:30 am

PART 2: August 24, 2021 | 10:00 to 11:30 am

PART 3: September 2, 2021 | 10:00 to 11:30 am

# PART 1: ACTION STEPS FOR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Tuesday, August 17, 2021

*Training to accompany “Collective Power: A Practical Blueprint for Sexual Assault Programs to Create Community Partnerships and Collaborations”*



# Upcoming Series Trainings:

PART 2	<a href="#">Monolingual English</a> : Community Blueprint: Working Together in an Equitable Manner (Processes and Power)	Tuesday, August 24 10 to 11:30am
PART 3	<a href="#">Monolingual English</a> : Community Blueprint: Sectors and Sector-Specific Resources	Thursday, September 2 10 to 11:30am
Parte 1:	<a href="#">Monolingüe en español</a> : Proyecto Comunitario: Pasos de Acción para la Participación Comunitaria	Jueves, 19 de agosto 10 a.m -11.30 a.m
Parte 2:	<a href="#">Monolingüe en español</a> : Proyecto Comunitario: Trabajando Juntos de una Manera Equitativa (Procesos y Poder)	Martes, 31 de agosto 10 a.m -11.30 a.m
Parte 3:	<a href="#">Monolingüe en español</a> : Proyecto Comunitario: Sectores y Recursos Específicos del Sector	Martes, 31 de agosto 10 a.m -11.30 a.m

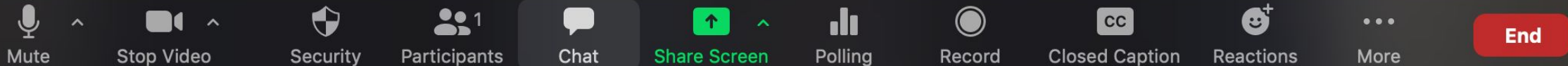
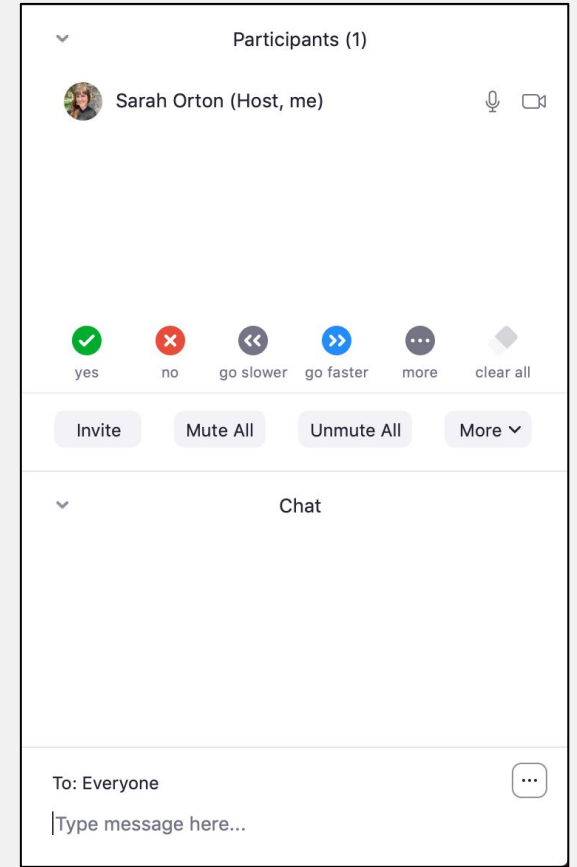


# About ValorUS

Formerly known as the California  
Coalition Against Sexual Assault  
(CALCASA)

# HOUSEKEEPING & HOW TO USE ZOOM

- ▶ Text chat
  - Please send a private chat message for assistance
- ▶ Polling Questions
- ▶ Dial-in
- ▶ Slides & Recording
- ▶ Closed Captioning
- ▶ Web Conference Guidelines



# Technical Support



Shelby Phillips

she/her  
Project and Communications  
Coordinator

# Meet your Facilitators



Ashleigh Klein-Jimenez

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VALOR (ValorUS)  
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Project Coordinator  
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she/her/hers



# OVERVIEW



Advancing Equity. Ending Sexual Violence.

VALORUS»



# Learning Objectives:

Participants will be able to

1. Distinguish among various types of partnerships and collaborations and the requirements of each
2. Describe the value of community partnerships and collaborations for sexual assault programs
3. Identify the steps involved in creating effective partnerships and collaborations, with examples of each step

## AUDIENCE POLL

The poll question will  
appear on your zoom  
window

Is your organization  
currently working on  
projects with community  
partners?

# What, Why, and How

- **WHAT:** This training is to help you get the most out of our new guide, *“Collective Power: A Practical Blueprint for Sexual Assault Programs to Create Community Partnerships and Collaborations.”*

# What, Why, and How

- **WHY:**
  - To reach a greater diversity of survivors.
  - To gain more equitable input into our work.
  - To amplify your leadership in the community at large.
  - To become recognized as a vital part of the California safety net.

# What, Why, and How

- **HOW:** Through establishing and maintaining community partnerships and collaborations.

# ENHANCING SOCIAL JUSTICE

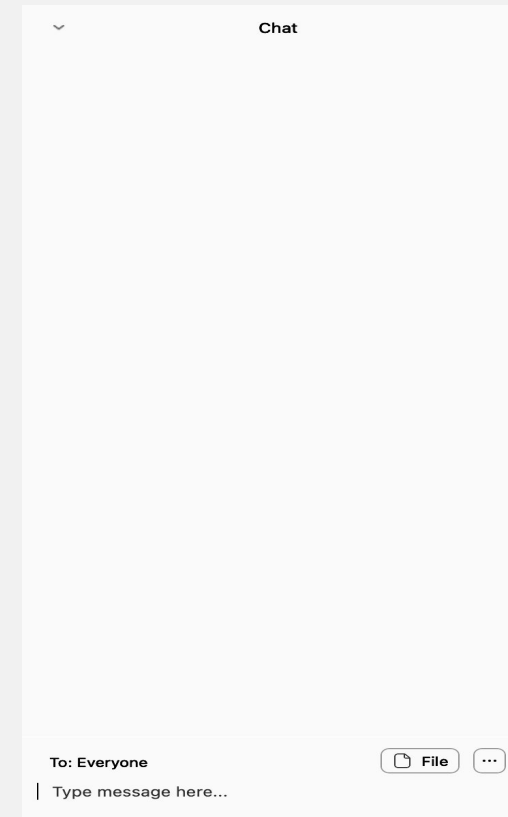
This approach advances our social justice goals and brings us closer to eliminating (or at least alleviating) some of the root causes of sexual violence, while at the same time we are reaching out more directly to survivors who are less likely to access our services...

When we develop collaborative relationships with people and organizations that are addressing factors such as poverty, bias in the criminal legal system, and community violence, we are strengthening the safety net and reducing risks for sexual violence. This connects directly to our efforts to prevent sexual violence.

Audience Chat Question:

HOW IS YOUR WORK WITH  
COMMUNITY PARTNERS  
ENHANCING SOCIAL JUSTICE?

Use the Text Chat feature  
to answer the question.





# What Working Relationship Suits Your Purpose?



## Step One:

# Convene Internal Discussions



# FOR INTERNAL DISCUSSIONS:

- What is the purpose of the partnership or collaboration?
- What investment or commitment will you make? Are you prepared to take input from others?
- What do you expect from partners?
- What form of partnership or collaboration best suits the goals you are pursuing?

# FOR DISCUSSION

- Is there a clear process and protocol about who in your organization can explore and commit to partnerships?
- Does every staff member know this process?
- Has there been any confusion about staff roles in making these connections?

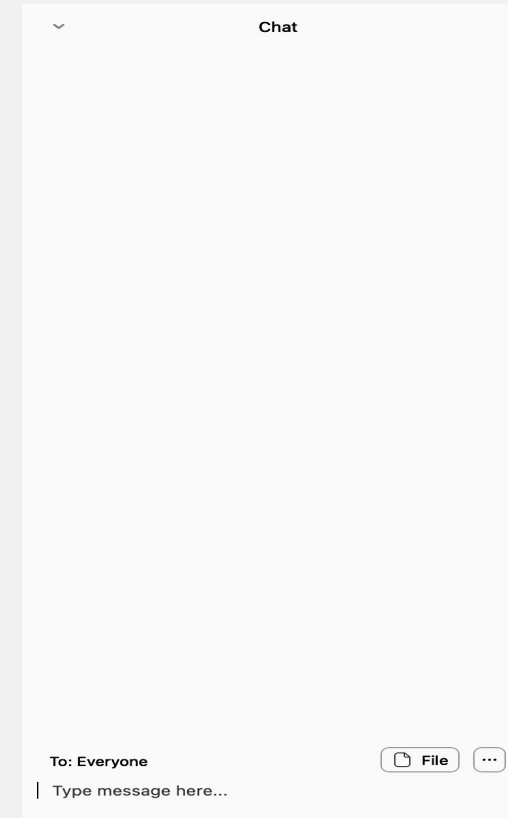
# WHO DO YOU PARTNER WITH?

- Consider these options:
  - Current partnerships you can enhance or build upon
  - Finding non-traditional partners by thinking “outside the box”
- What’s important:
  - Can you find common ground?
  - Do your values align? Are any mis-matched?
  - Can this relationship help you reach underserved people or communities?

Audience Chat Question:

WHO ARE YOU CURRENTLY  
PARTNERING WITH?

Use the Text Chat feature  
to answer the question.



## Step Two:

# Pay Attention to Timing





# TIMING ISSUES

- What happens when you get too far ahead in the planning process before bringing on partners?
- How do you prepare to jump into a project if another organization approaches you on short notice, or you become aware of an opportunity at the last moment?
- What do you do when another organization wants you to work with them, but they have made inaccurate assumptions about your work or overestimated your resources?

# Step Three: Set Your Framework



# HOW DO THESE ISSUES INTERSECT WITH SEXUAL VIOLENCE?

- LGBTQ+ Equality
- Racial Equity and Justice
- Immigrant Justice
- Alternatives to Criminalization and Reentry Issues
- Health Equity and Wellness
- Disability Justice
- Economic Justice
- Others?

# WORKING AT THE INTERSECTIONS

What is the value of looking at these intersecting issues and seeking partners who are already involved in work on those issues?



## Step Four:

# Connect with Potential Partners



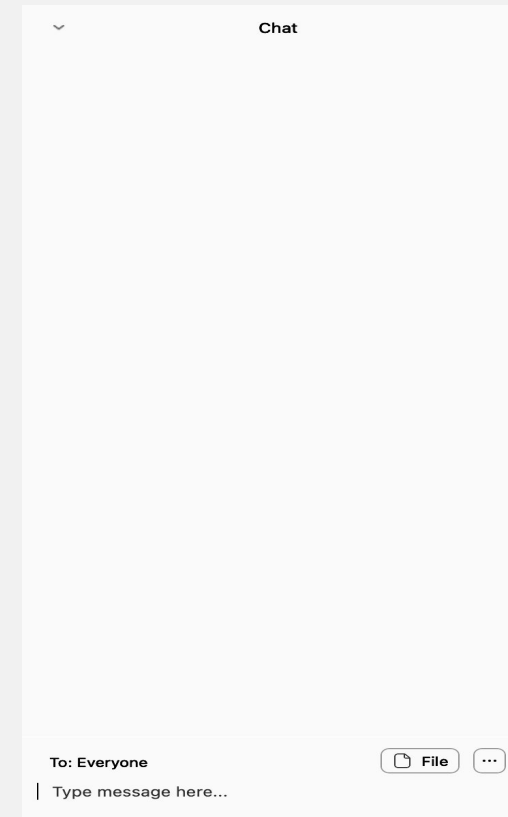
# CONSIDER NONTRADITIONAL PARTNERS

- Some examples:
  - Doulas and midwives
  - Patient advocacy organizations
  - Youth-serving organizations
  - Promotores (health outreach workers)
  - Pride centers or groups
  - Organizations representing different ethnic or racial groups
  - Grassroots media project
  - Labor unions
  - Local businesses

## Audience Chat Question:

HOW DO YOU FIND  
COMMUNITY PARTNERS?

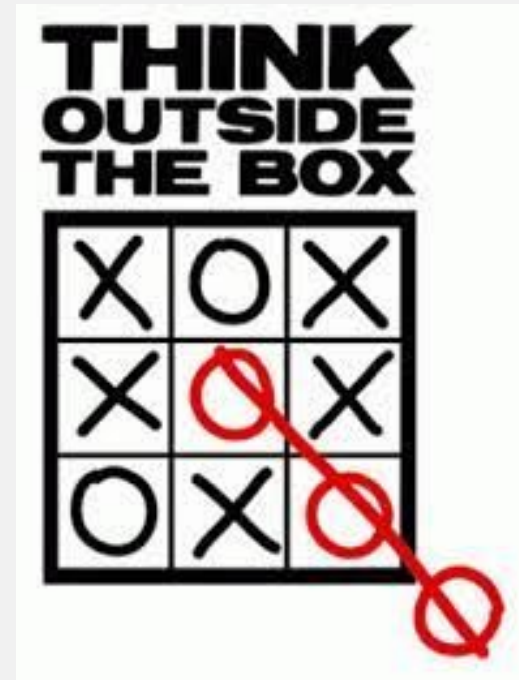
Use the Text Chat feature  
to answer the question.





# HOW DO YOU FIND COMMUNITY PARTNERS?

- Check regional or national networks for local affiliates
- Research who is working on intersecting issues in your community
- Stay up to date with local news outlets and social media



## Step Five:

# Do Your Homework and Check Your Privilege



# DO YOUR HOMEWORK

- Things to learn:
  - The issues you are taking on
  - The population or community you are targeting
  - The potential partners in the community
  - The history of any interactions with your agency

# CHECK YOUR PRIVILEGE

- Examine your own biases and assumptions
- Make yourself visible in the community on an ongoing basis (not just when you want something)
- Provide resources and equitable funding
- Focus on creating “strong, authentic partnerships”

--from an article by Nonprofit AF

# APPROACH WITH HUMILITY

- You are going into “other people’s homes” when you work outside of your field.
- Find out how their organizations operate.
- Learn a little of their lingo.
- Don’t tokenize.
- Give everyone at the table full respect and inclusion.
- Remember, listening is your superpower.

## Step Six:

# Create a Compelling Invitation



# HOW DO YOU INVITE PARTNERS TO THE TABLE?

- Build your relationship – don't rush things.
- Make sure emails are addressed to the right person.
- Consider meeting over coffee.
- Take a mutual aid approach: "What can we do to help?"

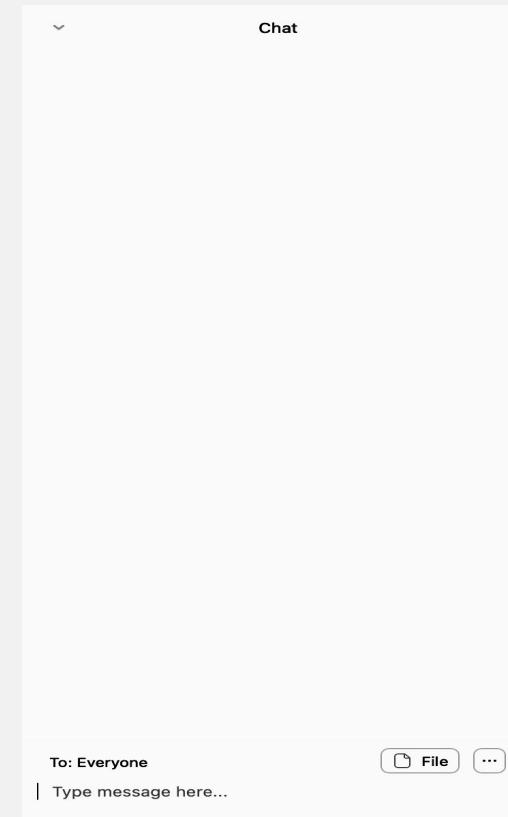




## Audience Chat Question:

WHAT STRATEGIES HAVE YOU  
FOUND HELPFUL IN THE  
INITIAL ENGAGEMENT OF  
PARTNERS?

Use the Text Chat feature  
to answer the question.



## Step Seven:

# Begin With A Series of Conversations



## CONSIDER HOW TO CONNECT

- Why should they take up the sexual assault issue?
- Why should they share resources with your agency?



# ONE STEP AT A TIME

*You don't need to start big!* Start with coffee dates (virtual or in-person) and treat other orgs/ groups/ people as the experts they are. Say that you want to talk about how your program or agency can better meet the needs of the community and you're interested in their honest opinion and feedback. Valuable partnerships need to start with relationships. Schedule in one a week or one a month to have that connection and when things come up, lean on them. It will naturally grow over time. (RISE, San Luis Obispo)

## Step Eight:

# Plan Evaluation Strategies & Use Assessment Tools



# ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION

## ASSESSMENT

- Identify the problems you want to tackle
- Determine the scope of the problem
- See how different community groups and organizations view common problems

## EVALUATION

- Determine whether you are achieving your objectives
- Need a baseline and scheduled evaluation points
- Should be incorporated into your project from the beginning

# EXAMPLE: A CANADIAN PROJECT TO IMPROVE ACCESS TO SA SERVICES IN REMOTE AND RURAL COMMUNITIES

## ASSESSMENT

- Initial community development & participatory processes
  - Focus groups
  - Surveys
- Identified how the community preferred to receive information

## EVALUATION

- Repeated focus groups and surveys during and after the project
- Determined whether gaps in services were successfully filled

# RESOURCES FOR ASSESSMENT AND EVALUATION

- The “Collective Power” blueprint offers numerous resources for assessment and evaluation, notably the Kansas University Community Tool Box.
- Assessment and evaluation can be formal or informal.
- Consider partnering with local higher ed institutions for help with evaluation.
- Build in evaluation from the very beginning.
- Make sure all stakeholders are involved.
- Capture “stories” about successes.

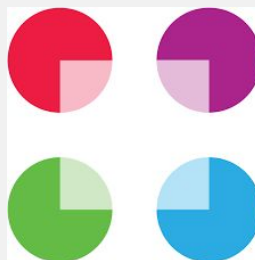


# Step Nine: Cross Train



# START ON THE SAME PAGE – INITIAL CROSS-TRAINING

- Bring all partners together to build relationships and common ground.
- Include:
  - How to work in each other's space.
  - A tone of mutual respect and humility.
  - Information about how others describe their own services and clientele ("consumers," "clients," "survivors," or "victims")
  - Convey the message that all partners are valuable

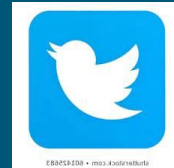


## BUILD SHARED UNDERSTANDING with ongoing training

- Look at the issue through each other's lenses.
- Consider creating training modules to infuse into other groups' training.
- Invite members of partner organizations to your staff trainings and offer to go to theirs.
- Cosponsor expert training presentations or conferences.
- Consider sustainability – archive or film trainings when possible.
- Develop a shared website or other way of making training materials available to all on an ongoing basis.

## Step Ten:

# Develop Materials Together



# BRAINSTORM INNOVATIVE RESOURCE & OUTREACH MATERIALS

- Create a multidisciplinary manual or guide
- Build a resource list with everyone's input
- Create training materials
- Develop outreach information for the community.
- Contribute to each other's social media accounts.

# DEVELOP A COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

- Include social media.
- Coordinate the release of information.
- Have a messaging plan.
- Create a process for agreeing before messages are sent.
- Agree on spokespeople for joint ventures.

## Step Eleven:

# Consider Communities of Practice



# WHAT IS A COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE?

A community of practice is

- “a group of people who share a common concern, a set of problems,
- or an interest in a topic and who come together to fulfill both individual and group needs.”
- They share best practices and seek to advance knowledge for their fields by regularly interacting and working together.

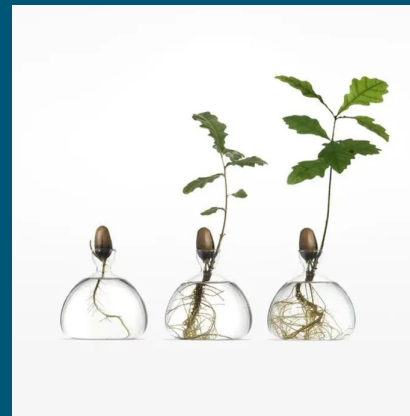


# TYPES OF COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

- *Helping Communities* provide a forum for community members to help each other with everyday work needs.
- *Best Practice Communities* develop and disseminate best practices, guidelines, and strategies for their members' use.
- *Knowledge Stewarding Communities* organize, manage, and steward a body of knowledge from which community members can draw.
- *Innovation Communities* create breakthrough ideas, new knowledge, and new practices.

## Step Twelve:

# Keep Sustainability in Mind



# SUSTAINABILITY ELEMENTS

- Leadership Competence
- Effective Collaboration
- Understanding the Community
- Demonstrating Program Results
- Strategic Funding
- Staff Involvement and Integration
- Program Responsivity

# HOW SUSTAINABLE IS YOUR PROJECT?

- Did you consider sustainability from the start?
- Have you built in measurement and evaluation?
- Are you documenting progress?
- Do you share the responsibility for preventing & intervening in sexual violence across sectors?
- Have you integrated community sharing into the culture of the organization (for example, by including it in job descriptions)?
- Do you seek unconventional funding sources (such as from local businesses or community programs with a mutual interest)?



# Wrap Up

## Reminders



# Find & Follow Us!

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#WeAreValor

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