



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 6, 2024

Press Contact: Grace Glaser, Public Affairs & Policy Manager – gglaser@valor.us, (916) 446-2520 x323

ValorUS® Announces Funding from the Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women to Implement Restorative Practices

SACRAMENTO – ValorUS® (VALOR) is excited to be awarded \$2 million in funding from the Office on Violence Against Women as a national training and technical assistance provider on restorative practices for sexual harm. As the recipient of the Restorative Practices and Sexual Assault Training and Technical Assistance Project grant, VALOR will help community organizations and sexual assault service centers to build their capacity to implement restorative practices amongst their service provision offerings for survivors of sexual assault. VALOR is also partnering with national organization, [Ampersands Restorative Justice](#), that is dedicated to making restorative justice accessible and supports capacity building and culture change across all communities working to prevent sexual harm.

Over the next 5 years, VALOR will work closely with specialized trainers and culturally diverse advisory group members to provide trainings, ongoing technical assistance, and learning communities to support service providers and organizations in implementing community-based restorative practices. This expansion will allow survivors to have increased, culturally-responsive pathways that uphold their choices and safety, harmdoer accountability, and healing processes available to them.

VALOR’s CEO, Sandra Henriquez, shared, “Our field has long been committed to survivor-centered healing by discussing their options and supporting their choices. The project will deepen the field’s commitment to supporting survivors, by expanding the movement’s understanding and appreciation of survivor healing and accountability for those who have caused them sexual harm, outside of the criminal legal system. This award enables us to lead with prevention by recognizing the ability for people to change and the importance of building community through relationships.”

VALOR honors the origins of restorative practices, coming from Black and Indigenous cultures, and uplifts the work of communities and organizations globally that embrace and utilize such practices in order to enhance services for survivors. Restorative practices will ultimately help us work towards a world free from sexual violence and provide a path of more opportunities, healing, and community.

ValorUS® (VALOR) is a California-based, national anti-sexual violence organization and California’s sexual assault coalition, representing the 84 rape crisis centers across the state. Since our founding in 1980, we have continued to build dynamic relationships across a diverse range of communities, institutions and systems, and mobilize our network of survivors and advocates to influence change. Through advancing equity, leadership, prevention, and advocacy, we are fearlessly pursuing a world free from violence where the dignity of every person is valued and respected. For more information, visit valor.us | 16.446.2520 | Valor.US

1215 K Street | Ste 1850 | Sacramento, CA 95814

SACRAMENTO | LOS ANGELES | WASHINGTON D.C.