

Sexual Violence Fundamentals

Must-Haves for a Meaningful Response to Sexual Violence

The Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault

When you are deciding what projects and programs to fund through STOP, remember to take a step back and evaluate whether you are meeting these three basic standards.

Trauma Informed

- Does this response treat trauma as a normal human response to abnormal events?
- Is this response mindful of how trauma can impact the brain and body?
- Will this project/program respond effectively to a wide range of reactions to trauma? Does it recognize that there is no one-size-fits-all approach to sexual violence response?

Victim Centered

- Is this response actively engaging victims/survivors in their own healing?
- Is it taking the diverse individual needs of victims/survivors into account?
- Is this response designed to affirm and support victims/survivors, and to avoid causing further harm?
- Does this response give victims/survivors as much agency in the healing process as possible?

☐ Culturally Responsive

- Does this response reflect the fact that oppressed communities are more likely to experience sexual violence and less likely to seek help?
- Is this response designed to be representative of the community that it will serve?
- Are there responses that incorporate the norms and values of all victims' / survivors' communities and cultures?
- Are projects and programs staffed by community members?



Questions?

Please contact the Sexual Violence Justice Institute at SVJI@mncasa.org.

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