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The Roots of Gender-Based Violence in Rural Communities

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OVW Rural Program New Grantee Orientation



LEARN. ACT. TRANSFORM.

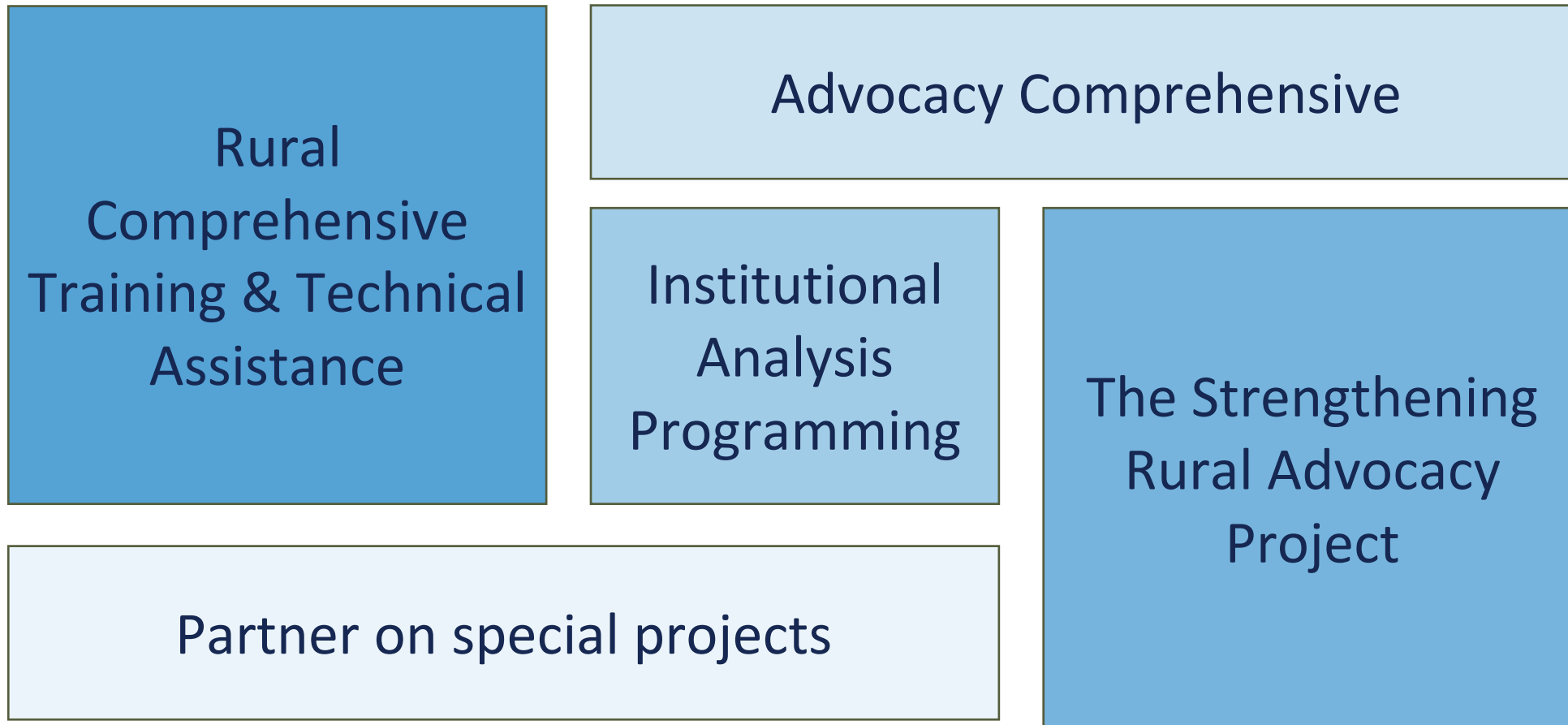
Our Time Together

- Praxis's Work with Rural Communities
- Working Agreements
- A Social Justice Approach
- Oppression and Gender-Based Violence
- Complexities of Survivors' Lives
- Closing

Mission

Praxis advances transformative change to end gender-based violence and establish equity.

Activities and Initiatives



Praxis Rural TA

- Virtual listening sessions
- Training institutes
- Webinars
- Newsletters
- Ongoing technical assistance



Praxis's Working Agreements

Working Agreements (1)

Praxis works to end gender-based violence by eliminating all forms of oppression and creating equity in the world as well as within our organization. Promoting equity necessitates challenging interpersonal manifestations of oppression. The purpose of the Working Agreements is to guide peer-to-peer interactions and training practices for faculty, staff, consultants, and participants in our events.

Working Agreements (2)

The Agreements rely on individual reflection, truth-telling, transparency and loving acknowledgment of the ways in which we all have power and privilege, by:

- **Honoring Ourselves**
- **Honoring Others**
- **Honoring Our Communities**
- **Honoring Our Spaces & Places**

Working Agreements (3)

- We agree to respect and embrace our differences and our similarities
- We agree to promote balanced participation and open discussion
- We agree to assume good intentions and assume the best of each other
- We agree to be fully present and focus on the work at hand
- We agree to attend to our needs by nurturing ourselves mind, body and spirit

Working Agreements (4)

- We agree to disagree respectfully
- We agree to do our best to be good allies
- We agree to name oppression when it surfaces and to not repeat oppressive misinformation after we have learned otherwise
- We agree to respect each other's privacy
- We agree to start and end on time

Working in Rural Communities



Rural Realities: Challenges

What are the challenges of living and working in rural communities?



Rural Realities: Strengths

What are the strengths of rural communities?

A Social Justice Approach

Intersection & Equity

- Roots of gender-based violence include racism, sexism, classism and colonization
- Promote gender, racial and economic justice

Ending Gender-Based Violence

- Explore and address root causes
- Individual, community, & systems work are interrelated
- Address how organizations & institutions are structured to end the violence

Defining Oppression



Systematic & institutionalized mistreatment

Based on historical and current structures

Built & reinforced by social systems

- Enacted by people's behavior & attitudes

Power + Privilege + Prejudice = Oppression

Excerpt from Elemental

What examples of oppression do you see in the film clip?



Social Justice Advocacy (1)

**Stand with and
give voice**



**Change what those in
power do**



Social Justice Advocacy (2)

Reform institutions



Link to other social justice movements

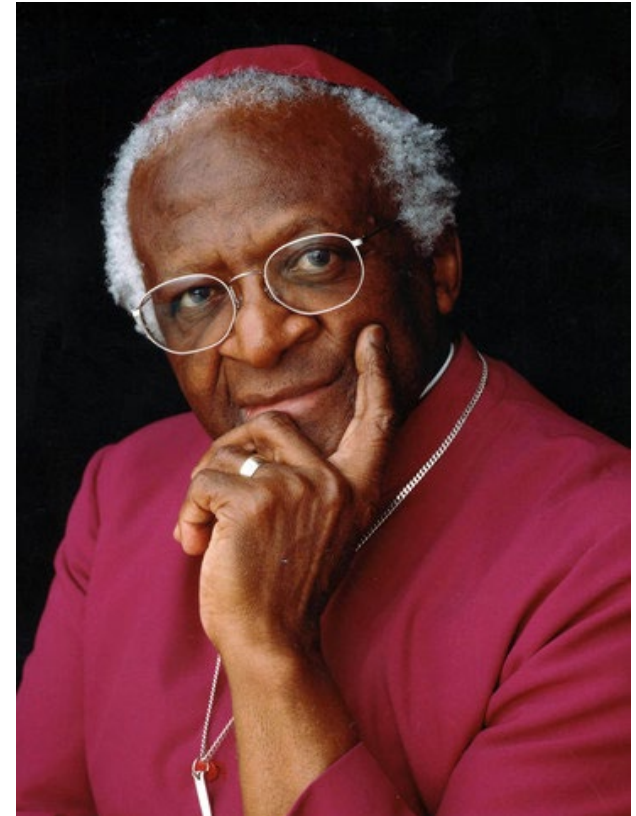


A Movement Toward Justice

Requires:

- ✧ Truth be told
- ✧ Harm repaired
- ✧ Conditions that give rise to injustice and violence be eradicated

Archbishop Desmond Tutu



Exploring the Complexities of Survivors' Lives

The Complexities of Survivors' Lives

Take a few minutes to think of what is most important to you in your life.



Choose your top 5 and write them down in front of you where other people can't see.



Have a conversation without talking about any of the 5 things you wrote down.

Discussion Questions

- What was it like to not be able to talk about the most important things in your life?
- What does this make you think about your work and what we talk to rural survivors about?
- What is the impact of missing these connections/other meaningful information?

Thank You!

Stay in touch: info@praxisinternational.org

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