



COLORADO ADVOCACY IN ACTION CONFERENCE

Call for Presenters: Colorado Advocacy in Action Conference - June 14-16, 2022!

Join us for the VIRTUAL [Colorado Advocacy in Action Conference](#) June 14-16, 2022! Started in 2011 and co-presented by [Violence Free Colorado](#) and the [Colorado Coalition Against Sexual Assault](#) (CCASA), CAIA is the only statewide conference specific to domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and dating violence advocacy.

Our [Call for Presenters](#) is now open. We're looking for presenters from diverse backgrounds and experiences to address what survivors and communities really need - particularly those who are most underserved - not just for intervention, but also prevention and social change.

Proposals are due at 5 p.m. MST Jan. 28. The CAIA Content Review Committee will review all proposals and reach out to presenters in February.

Our full conference lineup and registration dates will be available in the coming months. [Learn more](#) about CAIA and make your plans to attend! If you have additional questions about submitting a proposal, email conference@coloradoadvocacy.org or call 303-521-0201.

Coalition Updates

Executive Team

Violence Free Colorado has begun the search for our next executive director. We will be working closely with executive search firm, HR Advantage, throughout this process. We anticipate the position will be posted by mid-January. We will be asking for input and feedback from our members.



Marissa Shoback and Roshan Kalantar, Violence Free Colorado Leadership Team

Speaking of members, our statewide calls resume in January, with our first statewide COVID call of the year at noon Jan. 25. With the new year, we are back on schedule and will meet every fourth Tuesday at this same time. Join us each month to get the latest information on COVID protocols and emergency funding. These meetings are a great opportunity to share your successes, tell us your needs, and be in dialogue and collaboration with one another.

In the meantime, if you would like an invitation to our statewide calls, or have other feedback or suggestions around the executive director position and other happenings at the coalition, please email Roshan Kalantar at rkalantar@violencefreeco.org.

Training and TA Team

January Facts & Snacks: Analysis of "Maid"
Jan. 11, noon-1 p.m.

[Register today!](#)



Brandy Walega and Miranda Encina
Violence Free Colorado Training and Technical Assistance Team

For our January Facts and Snacks webinar, we will analyze the recent Netflix series "Maid." A few of our staff members will discuss their impressions of the series, how domestic violence and survivorship are portrayed, as well as how these things connect with broader issues of oppression and marginalization. We will also share our takeaways about how advocacy work and individual and community support are presented, our thoughts on best practices, and things to avoid. As always, we will approach our conversation through a lens of accessible, culturally-responsive, and trauma-informed practices.

Presenters: Miranda Encina (they/them, she/her), Culturally Responsive Technical Assistance Specialist; Hannah Colter (she/her) Community Impact Specialist; and Lindsay Christopher (she/her), Housing and Economic Justice Program Manager, along with local and national domestic violence advocates

February Facts & Snacks: Using Trauma Informed Motivational Interviewing with Survivors to Empower Change
Feb. 8, noon-1 p.m.

[Register today!](#)

Come chat about the benefits of learning and using Motivational Interviewing as a communication skill with survivors to help them address trauma, build empowerment, and work on safety planning.

Presenter: Darlene Brace (she, her, ella) has worked in the DV/IPV field for over 15 years. She is a social worker and addictions counselor who specializes in trauma and holistic care. She is a Motivational Interviewing (M.I.) National Trainer and is passionate about ending violence in our communities. She works as a Behavioral Health Director for a medical clinic and teaches for the graduate school of social work at University of Denver.

Public Policy Team

The 2022 legislative session is just over a week away! A huge focus this year will be spending American Rescue Plan Act funding that was allocated to Colorado, and many of you have joined us in advocating to make sure that survivors and domestic violence programs are remembered and included as the money is spent. We hope to see a historic level of investment in domestic violence services in Colorado and will provide updates as session starts and bills move forward!



Amelia Lobo, Violence Free Colorado Public Policy Specialist

At the federal level we have been waiting for the Senate to introduce and pass the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act, and we hope to see a bill introduced early this year that includes increased investment in culturally specific programs, prevention, safe housing, and more. We will share updates and opportunities to reach out to Senators as they come! Contact Amelia Lobo at alobo@violencefreeco.org with questions.

Community Impact Team

Our team joined several other staff members in a recent training called [Compassionate Accountable Conversations](#), presented by [Growing a New Heart](#) – a collective of like-minded professionals who work to facilitate respectful and ethical relationships in families, workplaces and communities.



Tamika Matthews and Hannah Colter, Violence Free Colorado Community Impact Team

This training helped to introduce frameworks for engaging in equitable and respectful discussions with individuals who use abusive behaviors with a lens on compassion and accountability.

We're ready to use this guide our messaging efforts across multiple spectrums, including our [Stand Up Colorado](#) prevention work – and excited to talk together about the ways we can integrate this into Violence Free Colorado's daily work!

Contact the Community Impact Team with questions or feedback anytime at communityimpact@violencefreeco.org.

Resources and Other News



Violence Free Colorado's Survivors' Caucus

Did you know that Violence Free Colorado has a Survivors' Caucus? The group is a way for survivors to connect with each other, share resources and upcoming advocacy opportunities, with trainings and professional development opportunities as needed. We also host a Caucus listserv for survivors to collaborate and connect beyond meeting spaces.

Meetings are typically held on the third Monday of every other month via Zoom. Our next meeting will be on Jan. 10 - a deviation from our usual schedule to avoid conflict with the Martin Luther King Jr. holiday.

Check out our [flyer](#), and feel free to share it with anyone you know who may be interested in connecting with a group of advocacy-driven survivors! Contact [Tamika Matthews](#) or [Brandy Walega](#) for more information.

Specialized Training and Technical Assistance Response Program for Criminal Justice and Allied Professionals Responding to Military Members and Families Project



The National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA), in partnership with the National Crime Victim Law Institute (NCVLI), is excited to announce our upcoming calendar of events for the [Specialized Training and Technical Assistance Response Program for Criminal Justice and Allied Professionals Responding to Military Members and Families Project](#).

This project is designed to help communities develop coordinated, multidisciplinary responses to enhance support for military-connected survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence, stalking and dating violence. All upcoming events and technical assistance are free and open to civilian and military criminal justice professionals.

Contact Us

communityimpact@violencefreeco.org

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