



CALL FOR SPEAKERS

OVERVIEW

The New Jersey Coalition Against Sexual Assault (NJCASA) is excited to present our virtual conference, ***Rooted in Resilience: Unity & Action***, taking place on November 19-20, 2026.

Amid uncertainty and instability in our current landscape, this moment calls for grounding, reflection, and thoughtful planning to promote progress and transformation in the anti-sexual violence movement. What lessons can we learn from our movement's history? What values must we ground ourselves in? How can we apply new and innovative strategies for change? ***Rooted in Resilience*** calls on us to critically examine how we can generate momentum toward a transformative future that centers justice, supports survivors, and promotes healthy communities.

WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR:

This two-day conference will feature a keynote, 4 panel discussions, and 4 workshops. **We're looking for panelists and workshop hosts. There will be a \$1,000 stipend provided for each panelist and each workshop session.**

WHO WE'RE LOOKING FOR:

While we value the professional expertise and academic backgrounds of potential presenters, we equally value the voices and perspectives of individuals with historically marginalized/minoritized identities, system-impacted folks, and others whose recommendations are embedded in and reflective of lived experiences.

PANEL SESSIONS

MEDIA, CULTURE, & HARMFUL NORMS

This panel will explore how media, pop culture, and current events shape public understanding of sexual violence, highlighting how we can challenge harmful narratives and promote prevention through shifts in media and culture.

- *Panelists with expertise in sexual violence prevention education, media literacy, marketing and communications, and/or journalism/reporting are encouraged to apply!*

ADVOCACY, DEVELOPMENT, & MOVEMENT SUSTAINABILITY

This panel will feature a dual focus on effectively advocating for traditional government funding streams (and how they can be transformed to better meet needs), as well as strategies outside of government funding to ensure sustainability and foster innovation, such as diversifying funding sources, using data & storytelling (ethically) as a tool for fundraising, creative mission-driven fundraising approaches, etc.

- *Panelists with expertise in grantmaking, development, nonprofit management, budget advocacy, and/or organizing/mutual aid are encouraged to apply!*

INTERSECTIONS OF VIOLENCE & COLLECTIVE ACTION

This panel will examine how various forms of violence intersect and compound one another, exploring the value of cross-movement collaboration and identifying partnership opportunities.

- *Panelists with expertise in domestic violence, human trafficking, stalking, cyberharassment, incarceration/PREA, gun violence, gang violence, and/or political violence are encouraged to apply!*

FRESH PERSPECTIVES FROM YOUNG ORGANIZERS

The close-out session of our conference, this panel will feature young organizers sharing their experiences, innovations, and vision for the future of the movement.

- *Gen Z panelists with expertise in organizing, nonprofit leadership, and/or advocacy are encouraged to apply!*

WORKSHOP SESSIONS

We're seeking workshops rooted in survivor-centered, trauma-informed, inclusive, and culturally responsive approaches. Ideal sessions will create an engaging environment for learning, feature innovative concepts and strategies, and provide participants with tangible, practical takeaways.

Please see below for a list of sample topics that are aligned with our conference themes and goals. This list is merely suggestive and by no means exhaustive. While you are welcome to submit a proposal for any of these topics, we also encourage proposals that feature different topics of your own choosing.

- History/future of the anti-sexual violence movement
- Rooting in indigenous and collectivist values
- Grassroots organizing
- Community care
- Innovative strategies and tools for direct service
- Transformative justice
- Successful case studies
- Supporting historically marginalized/minoritized communities
- Community-level prevention

HOW TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL

Please use [this form](#) to submit your proposal. It will ask you to indicate whether you're applying as a **panelist** or as a **workshop host**. While you're welcome to apply for both, you must do so by filling out the form twice and submitting two separate submissions. If selected, please note that you will only be selected as a panelist or workshop host, not both.

Anyone applying to be a **panelist** should do so as an individual. **Pairs or group panelists will not be considered.** We will, however, consider pairs or groups as workshop hosts.

Proposal submissions are due April 30th. Should you have any questions, please reach out to Angela Lacovara (alacovara@njcasa.org) or Allie Fountaine (afountaine@njcasa.org).

To learn more about NJCASA and our work, please visit our website njcasa.org.