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## Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force

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**Testimony in support of SB5515**  
**Ways and Means Public Safety Subcommittee**  
**Submitted by: Michele Roland-Schwartz, Executive Director**  
**March 14, 2019**

Co-chairs Sen. Winters and Rep. Piluso and members of the committee:

On behalf of the Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force, I am pleased to express support for the Oregon Department of Justice budget and the work of the *Crime Victim and Survivor Services Division* (CVSSD). CVSSD provides exemplary leadership to reduce the impact of crime on victims' lives by supporting statewide victim services programs, promoting victims' rights, and providing access to information in a compassionate, responsive, and dedicated manner.

While there are many components of CVSSD that positively impact survivors of sexual violence, our attention will focus on the partnership between CVSSD and the Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force (SATF).

SATF is a private, non-profit, non-governmental statewide agency formed in 1999 by the late Attorney General Hardy Myers at the urging of statewide leaders, advocates, and activists. SATF has a proud history of addressing sexual violence in Oregon, the spirit of which comes from our volunteer membership. Appointed by Attorney General Rosenblum, members serve on 1 of 8 subcommittees including: Advocacy Response, Campus, Criminal Justice, Legislative & Public Policy, Medical-Forensic, Men's Engagement, Offender Management, and Prevention Education.



Our mission is to advance a multi-disciplinary, survivor-centered approach to the prevention of and response to sexual violence in Oregon. Our goal is to prevent sexual violence from happening in the first place, while simultaneously improving our response efforts to mitigate trauma and ensure the safety and security of all survivors.

## **SATF Program Highlights**

By leveraging DOJ funding in the amount of \$500,000/biennium, SATF has been able to bring nearly \$1.5 million/biennium of additional state, federal, and foundation funding to sexual assault specific work. All of this supports a more trauma-informed, survivor-centered response to sexual violence in Oregon, and has facilitated both a statewide and national reach, making Oregon a model for other states.



**Sexual Assault Training Institute:** With 8 staff and 32 instructing faculty members, we provide sexual assault specific training and technical assistance to a variety of disciplines including: advocates, sexual assault nurse examiners, law enforcement, prosecutors, campus practitioners, and other responders.

**Impact:** *By leveraging funding from DOJ, SATF responded to 13,267 technical assistance contacts in 2018, demonstrating a 292% increase in the last biennium. We trained<sup>1</sup> 3,439 first responders, demonstrating a 63% increase in trained participants in the last 2 years<sup>2</sup>.*

**What's next?** *In collaboration with DOJ and DPSST, we are updating our 8-hour sexual-assault training for new officers; In collaboration with DOJ, we are implementing training on investigating and prosecuting sexual assault crimes committed against people with dementia and other cognitive degenerative diseases; updating and implementing 40-hour training for community-based, DA Victim-Assistance based/law enforcement based, and campus-based Advocates, among many other activities.*



**Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Certification Commission:** We provide technical assistance and support to Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners/Sexual Assault Examiners, clinics, and hospitals across the state of Oregon. The SANE Program provides administrative support to the Oregon SANE/SAE Certification Commission.

**Impact:** We have significantly expanded our rural and frontier outreach to build SANE capacity and sustainability to Oregon. *Since 2014, we have experienced an 819% increase in technical assistance requests from healthcare providers, clinics, and hospitals. As a result of Oregon's investment in SANE practice, we have experienced a 62% increase in the number of SANEs who have sought and been granted state certification. See supplemental materials.*

**What's next?** *In collaboration with DOJ, we are piloting two rural technical assistance projects to increase SANE technical assistance capacity in two regions of the state, including the North Coast & Eastern Oregon (see supplemental materials), and will continue to administer training scholarships for SANEs seeking out-of-state clinical skills training; In collaboration with the Oregon Hospital Association, we are developing a model treatment and transfer protocol for sexual assault patients seeking medical-forensic care in rural/frontier communities.*

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<sup>1</sup> Sample training Evaluation Feedback: "The cadre of speakers was the best collaborative group I have ever experienced in my 20 years of law enforcement experience. The speakers were credible, well-organized, and dynamic; All great tools. All information will help me be a better investigator; so far all presenters have been great; I really liked the way bias was explained in a non-condemning way. Something I haven't experienced; Overall a very good training. I would recommend to all law enforcement."

<sup>2</sup> Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force: 2018 Year In Review <http://oregonsatf.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/2018-Year-in-Review.pdf>; 2016 Year in Review <http://oregonsatf.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/SATF-2016-infograph-final-updated.pdf>



**Campus Program:** We provide training, technical assistance, and support to Oregon's 2-year/4-year public and private institutions, addressing investigation, adjudication, advocacy response, and primary prevention efforts on Oregon's campuses.

**Impact:** Eight<sup>3</sup> campuses now receive funding from DOJ to build their full-time campus advocacy services; since implementation of advocate privilege and training of campus advocates, we've experienced a 122% increase in reporting of assaults to Title IX officials, and a 138% increase in access to on campus victim services.

**What's next?** In addition to our annual investigation and adjudication training, we are providing state level leadership on primary prevention models to address all aspects of violence response and prevention on Oregon's campuses; in partnership with DOJ and TIX Education Specialists, we are expanding our training and technical assistance to support Oregon's K-12 school districts in their efforts to prevent and respond to interpersonal violence, harassment, and bullying by implementing training on Title IX, mandatory reporting, and prevention for K-12 administrators and other staff, in partnership with the Oregon Teachers Standards and Practices Commission, other statewide leaders, legislators, and select school districts.



**Prevention Program:** We work to eliminate the root causes of sexual violence in order to stop sexual violence before it occurs. Violence is not inevitable – it is preventable – and everyone plays a role in ending it.

**Impact:** By leveraging DOJ funds, and in partnership with Oregon Health Authority, in 2018 we *trained over 1,133 preventionists, a 359% increase over the span of 2 years. With \$53,000 each, our four Rape Prevention & Education (RPE) grantees<sup>4</sup> provided violence prevention education to over 9,144 youth in Oregon, demonstrating a 357% increase in youth reached in the last 2 years.*

**What's next?** Prevention is the most underfunded aspect of our programming, both at SATF and statewide. In addition to working to build our prevention capacity, we are committed to advocating for a dedicated source of funding<sup>5</sup> via [HB2657](#) to support community-based, culturally-specific, and Tribal programs providing violence prevention education in K-12 settings and broader community settings.

Despite significant increases in the level of training and technical assistance we have experienced in the last 2-4 years, our staffing and funding levels have remained relatively static. We are grateful for the ongoing support of DOJ - in particular - their allocation of \$500,000/biennium to support our statewide infrastructure. The demand for our services and support, however, is significantly outpacing our current capacity.

We also recognize that the demand for services is outpacing the capacity of our community-based programs, including Sexual and Domestic Violence non-profit programs and Child Abuse Intervention Centers, which is

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<sup>3</sup> Eastern Oregon University, Portland Community College, Portland State University, Oregon Health Sciences University, Willamette University, Western Oregon University, Southwestern Oregon Community College, Umpqua Community College.

<sup>4</sup> SATF administers the *Rape Prevention & Education (RPE)* funding program, which originates from the CDC and is passed through to the Oregon Health Authority who contracts with SATF. SATF receives \$264,718 annually to administer prevention work, passing \$212,705 to four programs serving 7 counties, including: [El Programa Hispano Catolico](#), [Haven in the Dalles](#), [Clackamas Women's Services](#), and [Women's Crisis Support Team](#).

<sup>5</sup> [HB2657](#) Directs the DOJ to administer violence prevention funding in consultation with the Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force.

why we are supportive of a \$10 million increase to the Oregon Domestic & Sexual Violence Services (ODSVS) fund and an increase in funding to the Child Abuse Intervention Centers.

It is critical we sustain and invest in the infrastructure and strong leadership of CVSSD to further our efforts to support survivors of harassment, abuse, and violence in Oregon. For this reason, we urge your full support of SB5515.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'MRS', is positioned above the typed name.

Michele Roland-Schwartz  
Executive Director



# 2018 YEAR IN REVIEW

*Our mission is the effective prevention of and response to sexual violence through collaborative, comprehensive, survivor-centered strategies.*

## 53

**Law Enforcement and Prosecutors** trained, from

## 16

**Counties** in Oregon (STOP VAWA)

*"This is good info for both new officers and a refresher for seasoned officers. I really liked the way bias was explained in a non-condemning way - something I have not experienced."*

- Attendees- Roseburg Law Enforcement/Prosecutor training

## 600+

**Law Enforcement** trained nationally (OWW)

## 384

**Law Enforcement** trained at DPSST (DOJ)

## 297

**Advocates Trained** at SATF's: Annual 40 Hour Core Advocacy Training, Medical Advocacy Training, Trans+ Inclusion Trainings, Campus Advocacy Trainings, and County-Specific Sexual Assault Response Team Trainings, throughout the state

**Rape Prevention & Education (RPE) Grantees** worked with

## 9,144

**Youth** in Oregon during the 2017-2018 school year, promoting healthy relationships and sexual violence prevention

## 1,133

**Preventionists Trained** statewide and nationally by SATF Prevention Coordinator

## 55

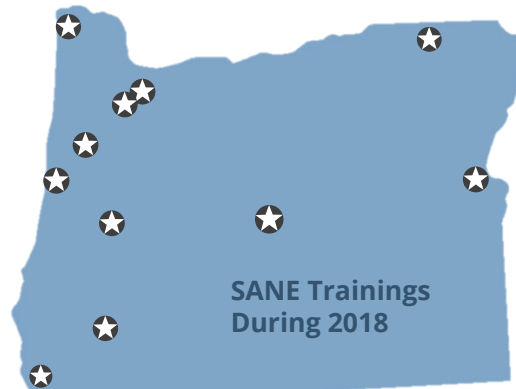
**Preventionists Trained** at SATF's First Annual Comprehensive Prevention Training

## 139

**Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners** in

## 26

**Counties** in Oregon



SANE Trainings During 2018

*"I always learn new things at these trainings. I am so grateful this class is offered--it is imperative for rural SANEs."*

-SANE Nurse at Astoria SANE 'Mock Exam' training

## 624

**Students** Trained in responding to and preventing sexual assault.

VOCA funds have allowed for Oregon CVSSD and SATF to fund **8 schools** to build full-time advocacy services on their campuses (3 community colleges, 1 small private college, 1 medical school, 1 rural college, and 2 state schools)

## 1,172

**Campus Practitioners** Trained in Sexual Violence Response and Prevention from

## 47

**Campuses** in Oregon

## 170+

**Multidisciplinary Partners** Collaborated in Statewide SATF Task Force Meetings

## 13,267

**Technical Assistance** Provided by SATF Staff

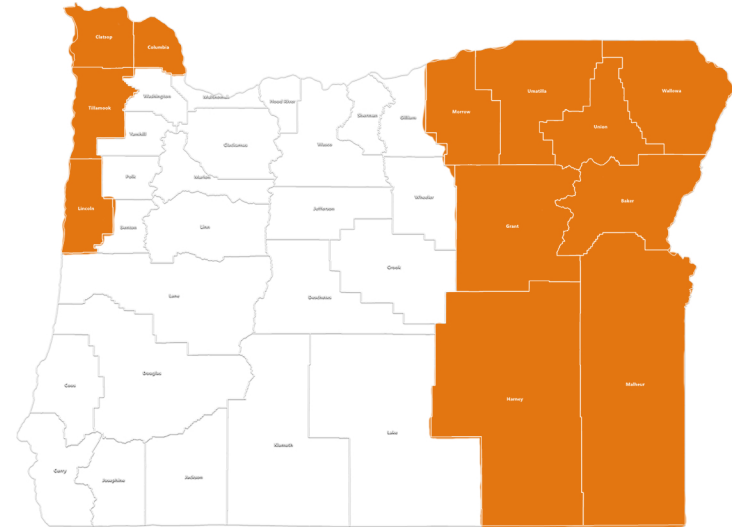
## 32

**SATF Sexual Assault Training Institute** Multidisciplinary Instructors



# 819% increase

in technical  
assistance provided  
2014 - current



## CAPACITY BUILDING PROJECT (2019)

Region 1: North Coast | Region 5: Eastern Oregon

## EXAMPLES OF SANE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AREAS

SAVE Fund ,  
Human Trafficking,  
HIV nPEP Following Sexual Assault,  
Trial and Testimony Basics,  
STI Screenings and Updates,  
State Exam Forms

# 61.7% increase

in SANE  
certifications  
2014 - current



to learn more about upcoming SANE trainings and events, please visit the SATF website : [www.oregonsatf.org](http://www.oregonsatf.org)