

NEWSLETTER - May 2023



Miss the last DCCESV Meeting?
Minutes from every coalition meeting are available on our website under the "What We Do" section.
Visit [DCCESV.ORG](https://dcesv.org) today!

A laptop and a smartphone are shown side-by-side, both displaying the DCCESV website. The laptop screen shows the header "DC COALITION TO END SEXUAL VIOLENCE" and a navigation menu. The smartphone screen shows the same header and a "What We Do" section.

Visit "What We Do" to see the latest meeting minutes, special projects, and newsletter archive.

Upcoming Conferences in the GBV Field

Get ready for conference season! Check out the upcoming gender-based violence conferences posted on the DCCESV events page. Visit dcesv.org/events to learn more and register.

Promote your events on DCCESV Social Channels!

To our Coalition Members, Stakeholders, and Allies, DCCESV will publicize your events to our website and social media to help reach new intended audiences. Please send your upcoming organizational and related events to ravila@mcsr.org.

DC SAAM RECAP

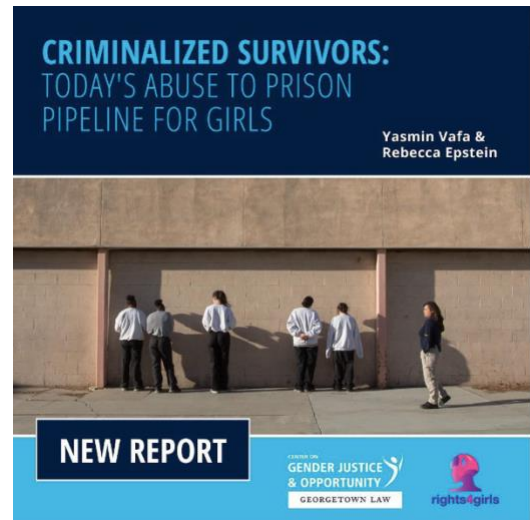
This year during #DCSAAM, we reached a wide audience! We saw more than 1,700 PRNewswire views of the DCCESV annual SAAM Proclamation press release, "[DC Council and DC Coalition to End Sexual Violence Recognize Sexual Assault Awareness Month, Honor Network for Victim Recovery of DC.](#)"



248 press release pickups in print and broadcast outlets nationwide, including local DC pickup by [Washington City Paper](#) and [DC News Now/WDVM-TV](#) with a potential local audience of 386,000 visitors per month on those sites. Our [2023 SAAM Action Guide](#) reached 172 new audiences and we promoted 20 events from our coalition voting members and stakeholders!

Coalition Members in the News and Reports

DCCESV voting member [Rights4Girls](#) and the Center on Gender Justice and Opportunity at Georgetown Law released a new report titled, *Criminal Survivors: Today's Abuse to Prison Pipeline*. The report provides new data about the criminalization of girls who suffer from sexual abuse. It highlights three the most urgent pathways for girls—and particularly, girls of color—who are pushed into the legal system as a direct result of their victimization: Survivors of sex trafficking who are punished as traffickers themselves; survivors who harm their abusers in attempts to escape or in self-defense; and survivors who report abuse to police but are charged with filing false reports.



The report calls for systemic change to stop sexual abuse and end the criminalization and re-victimization of survivors. The journey of healing requires a safe and trusted criminal justice process. Find the full report [here](#).

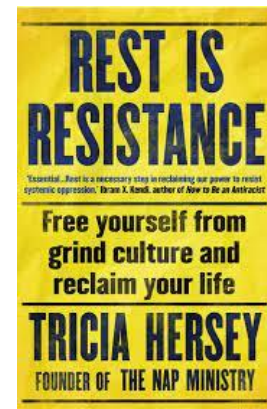
Additionally, The Guardian released its two - year investigation into child sex exploitation on social media and the tech industry's struggle to prevent it. The article features interviews with anti-trafficking advocate and DCCESV member, [Courtney's House](#). Read it [here](#).

Book Report: 'Rest is Resistance: A Manifesto' by Tricia Hersey

What would it be like to live in a well-rested world? Far too many of us have claimed productivity as the cornerstone of success. Brainwashed by capitalism, we subject our bodies and minds to work at an unrealistic, damaging, and machine-level pace — feeding into the same engine that enslaved millions into brutal labor for its own relentless benefit.

In *Rest Is Resistance*, Tricia Hersey, aka the Nap Bishop, casts an illuminating light on our troubled relationship with rest and how to imagine and dream our way to a future where rest is honored. Our worth does not reside in how much we produce, especially not for a system that exploits and dehumanizes us. Rest, in its simplest form, becomes an act of resistance and a reclaiming of power because it asserts our most basic humanity.

Rest Is Resistance is rooted in spiritual energy and centered in Black liberation, womanism, somatics, and Afrofuturism. With captivating storytelling and practical advice, all delivered in Hersey's lyrical voice and informed by her deep experience in theology, activism, and performance art, *Rest Is Resistance* is a call to action, a battle cry, a field guide, and a manifesto for all of us who are sleep deprived, searching for justice, and longing to be liberated from the oppressive grip of Grind Culture.



Organization Spotlight: The Person Center

DCCESV is proud to uplift The Person Center, an organization that supports African Immigrant and Refugee survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking in Washington, D.C. TPC offers case management and crisis support for survivors, develops and facilitates community education workshops, professional trainings for community organizations and responders, and leads advocacy efforts throughout the district.



To learn more about The Person Center, how you can support their work, and their available resources, visit <https://www.thepersoncenterdc.org/>

Grant Preparation

Some of the funding that the DC Government grants to victim service organizations comes from the federal government. As you prepare to submit your grants, particularly to the Office of Victim Services and Justice Grants (OVSJG), you can familiarize yourselves with sexual assault federal funding programs. The National Alliance to End Sexual Violence (NAESV) has created fact sheets found here: <https://endsexualviolence.org/toolkit-templates/>

June is the Celebration of Juneteenth & National Pride Month

In the month of June, we call for the celebration of National Pride Month and Juneteenth, both of which represent two promising lights along the struggle to securing human rights, safety, equality, and belonging for groups too often persecuted and disenfranchised.

Although Juneteenth became a federal holiday just two years ago, June 19th has been a day of honor and celebration since 1865, commemorating the end of slavery in the United States.

These five picture books are recommended by Safe Shores—The DC Children’s Advocacy Center to teach children about the holiday and encourage an exploration of all of America’s history, despite a reader’s age:

- *Juneteenth—A Children’s Story* written by Opal Lee; illustrated by Peter Viska
- *Juneteenth* written by Vaunda Micheaux Nelson and Drew Nelson; illustrated by Mark Schroder
- *Juneteenth Jamboree* written by Carole Boston Weatherford; illustrated by Yvonne Buchanan
- *Juneteenth for Mazie* written and illustrated by Floyd Cooper
- *Opal Lee and What It Means to Be Free: The True Story of the Grandmother of Juneteenth* written by Alice Faye Duncan; illustrated by Keturah A. Bobo

View the full list of children’s books about Juneteenth recommended by Safe Shores [here](#).

Additionally, **Pride Month** is celebrated every June to commemorate the 1969 Stonewall Riots and uplift the LGBTQ+ community. In June—and every month—it is important for service providers to identify and address the challenges and needs unique to LGBTQ+ survivors of sexual assault. Here are a few resources to get started:

- Read community-specific facts and statistics about sexual assault [here](#).
 - Browse a list of national organizations that provide direct services to LGBTQ+ survivors [here](#).
 - Access resources and trainings for working with transgender individuals [here](#).
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STAY CONNECTED:

