



Monthly Underserved Grant Newsletter

June 2021

Alliance of Local Service Organizations (ALSO) Underserved Technical Assistance Project

This newsletter from the [ALSO Underserved TA Project](#) is designed for Underserved grantees to provide them with regular and concise information including resources, training opportunities, open solicitations, and more.

You can always find more resources on the [Underserved TA Tools and Resources page](#) on ALSO's website or through the [Online Private Portal](#) for OVW Underserved Grantees.

Happy Resource & Opportunity Finding!
-Your Underserved TA Team



Safe Homes, Safe Streets.

New Staff on the Underserved TA Team

The Underserved TA Team is excited to welcome Rachel Hastings as our new Underserved TA Project (UTAP) Program Coordinator; a position vacated by Zarena Leblanc upon her recent promotion to ALSO's Training and Engagement Manager.

Prior to ALSO, Rachel worked



Image Description: ALSO's new Program Coordinator Rachel Hastings. A photo of a woman with dark curly hair is wearing a light blue blouse and smiling

abroad in Spain on youth outreach programming efforts and more recently as a legal and medical advocate at Resilience (formerly Rape Victim Advocates) serving sexual assault survivors residing in the Austin community in Chicago.

During her time at Resilience, and as a member of its Restorative Justice/Transformative Justice Committee, she helped create projects and partnerships with local organizations (e.g., Alternatives to Calling the Police During Mental Health Crises) to better serve survivors and the Austin community at large. One of the most prominent events she led in collaboration with other Resilience partners was the Jump into Summer Community Fun Fair, a fundraising event for Austin residents. Additionally, while she was an undergraduate majoring in Neuroscience at Lake Forest College, Rachel co-founded Reach Out, an organization which served to educate this college community about Title IX and rape culture on campus.

Underserved TA Hosted Events

Topical Webinar Series on Intersectionality

The ALSO Underserved TA Project hosted a three-part series grounded in intersectionality, one of the key principles of the ALSO Underserved TA Project. This three-part series ended this week.

The materials and recordings of the presentations will be posted on the [Online Private Portal](#) for OVW Underserved Grantees on a rolling basis.

Open Forums

Grantee Open Forums are online, interactive sessions provided to increase opportunities for Grantee connection, building community among Underserved Grantees, and time to cultivate mutual support in the current moment in time and culture.

These meetings are not recorded,

Virtual Summer Series

The ALSO Underserved TA team will be hosting the Summer Institute virtually again this year.

This required event for all Grantee organizations will consist of a series of virtual sessions focused on topics related to the core program areas of outreach and services.

to allow for open and honest discussion between the TA Team and amongst the grantees.

The Underserved TA Team is hosting open forum events over the next few months. These forums will be facilitated by members of the Underserved TA Team.

Dates:

- Thursday, June 17

Time: 11:00 am PT/12:00 pm MT/1:00 pm CT/2:00 pm ET
Each event is up to 60 minutes

Register for the Open Forum Here

Dates:

- Pre-Recorded Session (released early July)
- Tuesday, July 13
- Tuesday, July 27
- Thursday, July 29

Time: 11:00 am PT/12:00 pm MT/1:00 pm CT/2:00 pm ET
Each event is up to 90 minutes

Stay tuned for more information and registration details in the upcoming weeks.

Progress Reporting

The next progress reporting period is almost here. The deadline to submit progress reports is July 30. In preparation, VAWA MEI is offering webinars with VAWA MEI trainers on special topics to help grantees complete their semi-annual performance report.

Just click on the "Register Here" buttons below to sign up.

Title: Intro to Progress Reporting

Date: Wednesday, July 7

Time: 11:00 am PT / 12:00 pm MT / 1:00 pm CT / 2:00 pm ET

[Register Here](#)

Title: Report It Right: Victim Services

Date: Thursday, July 8

Time: 10:00 am PT / 11:00 am MT / 12:00 pm CT / 1:00 pm ET

[Register Here](#)

Title: Calculating FTEs

Date: Friday, July 9

Time: 10:00 am PT / 11:00 am MT / 12:00 pm CT / 1:00 pm ET

[Register Here](#)

Title: Crafting Narratives: Tell the Stories Behind the Data

Date: Thursday, July 22

Time: 10:30 am PT / 11:30 am MT / 12:30 pm CT / 1:30 pm ET

[Register Here](#)

Funding Opportunity

The Office for Victims of Crime hosted [pre-application webinars](#) to assist potential applicants in developing strong proposals in response to multiple funding opportunities.

During these pre-application webinars, OVC staff reviewed solicitation requirements and conducted question and answer sessions with interested potential applicants. Recordings and transcripts of these sessions can be found on their [Funding Webinars page](#). You can visit this page for more information on the open OVC solicitations.

Insightful Reading

Title: *Holding Space, Creating Safety: A Toolkit for Facilitating Conversations about Sexual and Intimate Partner Violence for Bisexual Peer Support Groups*

Joint Report By: [National LGBTQ Institute on IPV, Bisexual Resource Center, National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs \(NCAVP\)](#), and the [National Resource Center on Domestic Violence](#)

Approximate Reading Time: 60 minutes

Find out how sexual and intimate partner violence impacts bi+ communities and how support and social group facilitators can address these issues. This report is packed full of facilitation tips and guides that lead you through imagining and creating a peer support group to actually crafting space and facilitating.

[Read report here](#)

Non-Underserved TA Sponsored Webinars & Conferences

Expanding the Ecosystem of Support for Survivors in the U.S.

Host: [National Domestic Violence Hotline](#) and [FreeFrom](#)

Date: Thursday, June 17

Time: 11:30 am PT / 12:30 pm MT / 1:30 pm CT / 2:30 pm ET

Survivors need money to stay safe and heal, so in order to break the cycle of violence we must prioritize survivor wealth. In this webinar, presenters will discuss how they are building an ecosystem of support for survivors by: Building collective power through peer networks, providing unrestricted cash grants to survivors, utilizing data to better understand the nexus between IPV and economic insecurity, and more.

[Register Here](#)

Bridges: A Connect Call for Asians, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders Addressing Gender-Based Violence

Host: [Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence](#)

Date: Thursday, June 17

Time: 12:00 pm PT / 1:00 pm MT / 2:00 pm CT / 3:00 pm ET

API-GBV's June Bridges Connect Call aims to center AAPI LGBTQ survivors and advocates within the movement. This month, they've invited

community members who work to support AAPI LGBTQ survivors or engage AAPI LGBTQ communities in anti-violence work, to share their experiences and approach. They will discuss considerations for creating safe and inclusive spaces, and for working through a culturally-informed lens.

[Register Here](#)

Supporting Victims and Survivors of Faith: The 2021 Safe Havens Webinar Series for Advocates

Host: [Safe Havens Interfaith Partnership Against Domestic Violence](#)

Date: Thursday, June 24

Time: 11:00 am PT / 12:00 pm MT / 1:00 pm CT / 2:00 pm ET

This webinar series will equip advocates to better support victims and survivors from diverse communities of faith. How can advocates bridge the gap between their service agencies and faith-affiliated clients to ensure that everyone feels validated and supported? What should advocates know about each faith tradition to help them better meet the needs of faith-based clients?

[Register Here](#)

Your ALSO TA Team



Image Description: ALSO's Underserved TA team posing in a beige hallway at the 2018 Grantee Orientation.

From L-R: Quenette Walton, Lori Crowder, Lisa Gilmore, Cristina Damiani, Zarena Leblanc, Topher Williamson

[Have Questions? We are here to help!](#)

- For technical assistance support related to substantive and programmatic issues: Contact your ALSO Underserved TA point of contact at their individual email or the team at underservedtaproject@also-chicago.org.
- For questions about grant administration: Contact your OVW Program

Alliance of Local Service Organizations (ALSO)

Safe Homes, Safe Streets.

Underserved TA Project | 773.235.5705 | [Email](#) | [Website](#)

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STAY CONNECTED

