Dear Friends,

Looking back on 2020 is difficult—it was a very hard year. Like so many, we fought anxiety and loneliness, even sometimes hopelessness. We also struggled to learn new technologies and find new ways to work effectively. Cancelling our conference was heartbreaking, and a significant financial blow.

2020 also brought a great deal of uncertainty. For the first time in 13 years, EVAWI will not have grant funding to continue providing free training, technical assistance, and resources for sworn law enforcement and allied professionals. EVAWI received our first federal grant in 2004, with an award from the US Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW), and our current OVW grant ended this month.

We are profoundly grateful for OVW’s continued partnership over the last 18 years, since 2004, and proud of the resources, training, and support EVAWI has provided for the field. We also believe this is only a temporary funding gap. President Biden is a longtime champion of improving the criminal justice system’s response to gender-based violence, and he has pledged to increase sexual assault investigative training for law enforcement. We are confident his administration will fulfill this promise. In fact, it was this dedication to ending gender-based violence that earned Senator Biden EVAWI’s very first Visionary Award in 2002.

In the meantime, we remain committed to our mission, and we embrace new opportunities and creative possibilities. We continue to be inspired by the tenacity of survivors, and the persistence of practitioners who are reimagining what justice means. We can’t wait to see how this reimagining will foster transformative changes in the way justice operates in our communities in 2021 and beyond.

Wishing you all the best,

Joanne Archambault
Founder and CEO

Ann Burdges
President, Board of Directors

May 20, 2021
2020
BY THE NUMBERS

138,026
total hours of training and support

12,347
OLTI modules completed

57,775
email subscribers

14 new webinars

21,833 webinar participants

283,051
EVAWI resources accessed

944 technical assistance requests fulfilled

OUR MISSION

We inspire and educate those who respond to gender-based violence, equipping them with the knowledge and tools they need to support victims and hold perpetrators accountable. We promote victim-centered, multidisciplinary collaboration, which strengthens the response of the criminal justice system, other professionals, allies, and the general public – making communities safer.

OUR VISION

We envision a world where gender-based violence is unacceptable; where perpetrators are held accountable, and victims receive the compassion, support, and justice they deserve.
As a survivor, I know firsthand how the right response can make all the difference.

EVAWI helps survivors get the supportive response they deserve.

Alisa Alfaro

ONLINE TRAINING INSTITUTE IMPROVES INVESTIGATIONS

Detective Kristina Gonzalez of North Richland Hills, Texas Police Department says when she came across the EVAWI Online Training Institute (OLTI) for the first time, she thought, “Where have you been all my life?!” As the agency’s lead instructor on sexual assault and domestic violence investigations, she uses the OLTI as the basis for her training and mentoring with detectives. She says detectives are conducting better sexual assault investigations and submitting more cases for prosecution than ever before.

Most important, Detective Gonzalez emphasizes that investigators at her agency show survivors they matter, and they deserve justice. She sees how the detectives are processing the information from the OLTI and applying it in their interactions with survivors.

In 2020, more people than ever accessed the Online Training Institute. Like Detective Gonzalez and her colleagues, these professionals are expanding basic knowledge and gaining advanced skills to promote justice.

Most detectives either get no training on working with sexual assault victims, or worse, they get bad training. We use EVAWI’s OLTI to show there’s a better way to do things.
When Anita called New York State Police in April 2020 to report her sexual assault, Senior Investigator Matt Stegner knew he had to get the response right, even in the middle of a COVID-19 lockdown. He couldn’t tell her the State Police had shut down all in-person interactions for non-emergency calls. Anita had spent two years agonizing over whether to report the rape. “She was unsure and scared. It wasn’t an option to tell her to wait. She would probably have never called back,” he said.

Investigator Stegner reached out to the local sexual assault center, and they set up a video call with Anita, so he could interview her face-to-face, and advocates could provide support.

Realizing that detectives across the country must be struggling with the same challenges, Investigator Stegner contacted EVAWI to see if we could help. Together we worked quickly to create guidance on how to interview victims virtually, engaging all the same trauma-informed practices detectives apply to their in-person interviews. We then sent the guidance to our email list of more than 57,000 professionals.

Next, we gathered a group of leaders to provide training on how they were using virtual meeting software to interview survivors, witnesses, and suspects. One community even used remote technology to guide survivors through the process of a medical forensic exam conducted in their own homes. This is the type of innovation that can increase access for survivors long after the pandemic ends.

More than 1,200 people signed up for this live webinar, and 711 more watched the recording once it was available on our website. It was EVAWI’s most accessed webinar in 2020.

The field of sexual assault is always changing, and so are the needs of survivors and the professionals who serve them. We’re proud to help meet these needs, working with professionals who place justice and survivors’ well-being at the center of everything they do.
COMMUNITIES KEPT BELIEVING

Communities around the world rallied in 2020, pivoting to virtual events to show survivors that they Start by Believing, even in the most difficult circumstances. In Summit County, Ohio, for instance, community leaders used social media to reach the public, posting video clips of survivor interviews to convey how critical it is to Start by Believing when someone discloses their abuse. A total of 79 new communities launched Start by Believing campaigns in 2020—bringing the worldwide total to 577.

So many survivors tell us what Start by Believing means to them, and how being believed gave them the strength to heal when they reached out for help. Learn more and make your pledge today at www.startbybelieving.org.

I won’t lie—the process was scary at first. But, the people I worked with throughout, advocates, police officers and detectives, every person I spoke with, made me feel so comfortable, confident, and above all... believed. I understand the fear and risk it takes to come forward. But, I also see your strength and courage, and most importantly, I believe you.

Guiliana, Survivor

577 START BY BELIEVING CAMPAIGNS
79 NEW CAMPAIGNS IN 2020
FINANCIALS
Not surprisingly, 2020 saw dramatic shifts in our finances. EVAWI faced financial losses on several fronts, but canceling our conference was particularly devastating. We immediately began focusing on expanding our fund development infrastructure, to diversify our income. This investment tripled our individual donations but also significantly increased our expenses. We are also proud to report that EVAWI passed our third single audit in 2020, with no material weakness or deficiencies noted.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenues, gains, and other support</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Grants</td>
<td>$1,066,397</td>
<td>$1,387,408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference fees</td>
<td>$3,830</td>
<td>$1,140,480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other revenue</td>
<td>$23,699</td>
<td>$36,528</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment</td>
<td>-$16,726</td>
<td>$54,171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paycheck Protection Program grant</td>
<td>$38,656</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>$46,651</td>
<td>$56,051</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total revenues, gains, and other support</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,162,507</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,674,638</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Expenses**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program services</td>
<td>$1,179,323</td>
<td>$2,200,853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and general</td>
<td>$189,824</td>
<td>$238,817</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>$85,557</td>
<td>$3,139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$1,454,704</strong></td>
<td><strong>$2,442,809</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Change in net assets: -$292,197 $231,829

Programs: 81%
Operating: 13%
Fundraising: 6%
MOVING FORWARD
BECOMING SELF-SUSTAINING

Big changes are coming in 2021! Starting in 2020, EVAWI began moving to become financially self-sustaining. Since 2004, the US Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) has invested in EVAWI with grants supporting the development of high-quality training resources on everything from the fundamentals of writing a police report to investigating cold cases. Altogether, we have produced 19 Online Training Institute (OLTI) modules (representing 213 hours of instruction), 41 training bulletins and guidance documents, and 117 archived webinars.

With OVW funding, we have been able to offer these training resources for free. However, federal funds are meant to spark and nurture an organization, not maintain it forever. It’s our turn as a field to sustain and grow these resources. By the end of summer 2021, all OLTI modules and webinars will require a registration fee, intentionally priced to be as widely accessible as possible. In addition to individual registrations, organizations will be able to purchase subscriptions that allow full access to their personnel.

We will also keep some of our training materials free to everyone. Start by Believing resources will be free, as will EVAWI’s resource library, with over 1,000 research articles, protocols, and other tools and templates.

We’re deeply grateful to OVW for their longtime support of EVAWI and their commitment to meeting the needs of survivors and professionals. We are also thankful to our many partners and donors who continue to make this work possible, keeping our resources free or low-cost, and enabling development of new trainings and materials in this ever-evolving landscape.

EVAWI’s training and resources have transformed how the criminal justice system responds to sexual assault.

Chief Thomas R. Tremblay (Ret)
Thomas Tremblay Consulting & Training
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Seeking justice together, one response at a time. Every response matters. Your response matters.
Together, we are making a difference. Help support survivors – Donate to EVAWI today: evawintl.org