

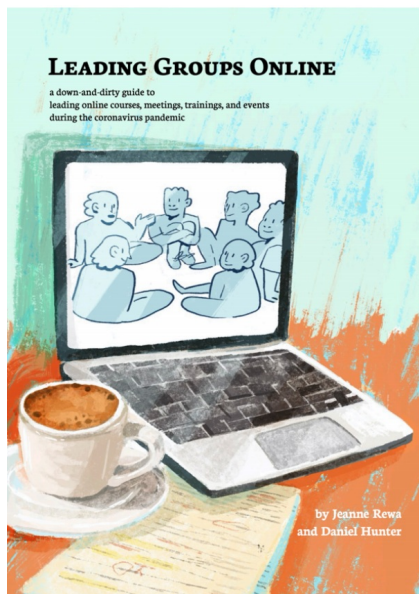
## CALIFORNIA PREVENTING RAPE

An Update From the California Department of Public Health  
Rape Prevention and Education Program

### RPE Spotlight

#### LEADING GROUPS ONLINE:

#### A down and dirty guide to leading online courses, meetings, trainings, and events during the coronavirus pandemic



There is no doubt that the coronavirus pandemic has created numerous crises and challenges for educators, trainers, and organizers. [This e-book](#), which is also [available for purchase](#) in print through the [trainingforchange.org](#) website, details the ten basic principles of facilitating trainings online for warmer and more engaging events. Additionally, [Leading Groups Online](#) includes important considerations for hosting digital meetings and webinars during this time including accessibility, heightened oppressive group dynamics, and fielding participants' emotional crises. This guide also includes numerous pages of templates and suggestions for engaging online activities.

[Jeanné Rewa and Daniel Hunter](#) co-authored this book with the insight of their combined two decades of experience. Their expertise includes experiential education, conflict engagement, curriculum design and grassroots activism.

#### CALCASA is in Alliance with Sexual and Domestic Violence Coalitions Across the Country

CALCASA has joined 45 other state sexual and domestic violence coalitions across the country to reaffirm its commitment to dismantling the same structures that have harmed and continue to harm our Black, Indigenous and People of Color community members.

The letter, titled "Moment of Truth," calls for the anti-violence movement to account for the ways in which we have participated in upholding white supremacy and imagines a better world where BIPOC lives and leaders are centered.

*"The Coronavirus pandemic, unchecked and increased police violence, political and economic upheaval, and stay-at-home isolation have produced the 'perfect-storm.'" We have a choice to make: run from the storm or into it. We choose to run into it and through it. We choose to come out the other side better, whole, loving, just, and more human."*

Read the full letter [HERE](#).



### Check out the upcoming trainings and web conferences:

*The RPE Training Schedule is subject to change due to the COVID-19 pandemic.*

Trainings are offered in-person or via web conference. Additionally, keep an eye out for networking opportunities such as regional meetings and the Communities of Practice (CoP) web conferences. As a reminder, RPE programs are required to attend four trainings per year according to their program tier designated below:

- TIER ONE - Annual TAT activities include **one RPE TNM; two C2H Trainings; one topic specific training**; quarterly TA calls; and quarterly peer networking calls or webinars.
- TIER TWO - Annual TAT activities include **one RPE TNM; three strategy or topic specific trainings**; quarterly TA calls; and quarterly peer networking calls or webinars.

### In-person Trainings

**All in-person RPE trainings are currently being monitored due to COVID-19.**

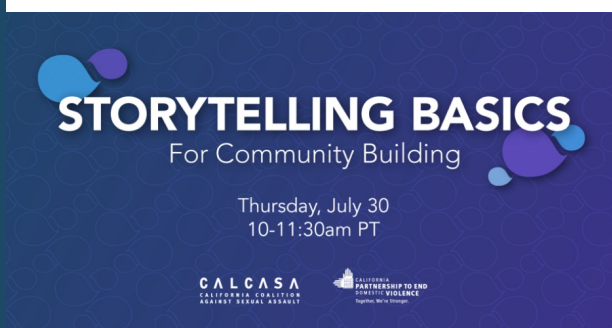
### Save the Dates

**September 15, 2020, 10:30am-12:00pm:** New Staff CoP (COMING SOON)

**September 16, 2020, 1:00pm-2:30pm:** Seasoned Staff CoP (COMING SOON)

**September 17, 2020, 3:00pm-4:30pm:** Supervisor Staff CoP (COMING SOON)

## WEB CONFERENCES



### [CALCASA/CPEDV](#)

**July 30<sup>th</sup> 10:00am-11:30am (PST)–**  
*Storytelling Basics for Community Building.*

Register [HERE](#).

### [Tamarack Institute](#)

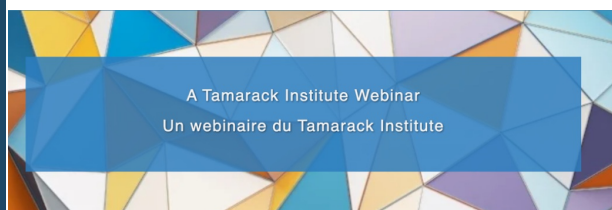
**August 19<sup>th</sup> 10:00am-11:00pm (PST)–**  
*Engaging Youth: Inspiring Stories and Lessons Learned.*

Register [HERE](#).

### [CALCASA](#)

**September 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup> TBD (PST)–**  
*CALCASA: National Sexual Assault Conference 2020: Bold Moves.*

Stay in the Loop by clicking [HERE](#).





## TOOLS AND RESOURCES

### [Moving Your Organization Toward Anti-Racism \[Webinar Recording\]](#)



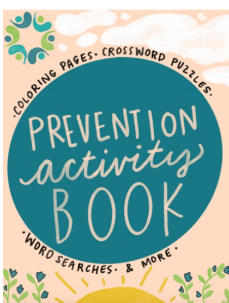
Recorded webinar from the [National Juvenile Justice Network](#) addressing an organizational experience of utilizing the [assessment tool](#) from the [Dismantling White Supremacy Workbook](#). The facilitators, Zeevelle Nottingham-Lemon and Brittany Cloverdale from the [CHOICE Program](#) in Baltimore, provide a comprehensive and accessible overview of how to move organizations towards being actively anti-racist.

### [Organizing During Social Isolation \[Webinar Recording\]](#)



[Social Movement Technologies](#), a non-profit providing organizing strategies, hosted a [webinar](#) in April 2020 regarding ideas for organizing during social isolation. The organization's website and webinar contains numerous tools and resources to support and implement digital organizing, including a [2020 Digital Organizing Toolkit](#) from [Community Change Action](#).

### [Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs – Prevention Activities Book](#)



[The Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs](#) (WCSAP) recently developed a free resource for preventionists working with young folks during the COVID-19 pandemic. [The Prevention Activities Book](#) contains no-tech activities for youth including healthy relationships themed crossword puzzles, prevention word searches, and joyful sexuality word scrambles. More activities from WCSAP can be found [HERE](#).

### [Bystander Intervention Online Toolkit](#)

[Soteria Solutions](#) released a virtual [Bystander Intervention Toolkit](#) to “increase recognition of sexual and relationship violence and demonstrate bystander intervention skills that can be implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic.” The toolkit includes graphics and images to be used on social media with



suggested language and links to additional resources. Read the [PreventConnect blog](#) for more information and request the toolkit [HERE](#).

---

## RPE PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

### School Policy Change from [Valley Oasis](#) in Lancaster, California



---

#### **Policy Change at schools and colleges creates sustainable change to prevent sexual violence community-wide**

which is why it is part of the essential elements of comprehensive school-based programs. It is also complex, requires trust and supportive relationships, and takes time...sometimes a loooong time. But it happens!!



This month, CALCASA's RPE Team gets to highlight the RPE program at Antelope Valley College (AVC) operated by Valley Oasis and longtime preventionist, Angelina Alvarez. Angelina began her prevention work with work with AVC in 2015. Transitioning from intervention to prevention was not always an easy mindset to maintain but she enjoyed the challenge of retraining her thought process. In this role she had to learn how to navigating complicated and often contentious and/or political relationships on campus in order to provide education and training to college students and staff as well as to the high school students that attend school on the AVC campus.

Over the years, Angelina was able to secure trusted relationships with department chairs, campus programs, students, staff, Dean of students. This relationship building, although a long process has been key to the program's success, particularly in the area of policy change.

Through the relationships she has built with committee members and campus teams



such as the Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT), Angelina has been able to discuss policy, procedure and protocol processes that have created a foundation for a larger and more comprehensive training policy that is currently pending approval.

In 2016, the campus review committee began reviewing policies and procedures each fall that related to sexual and interpersonal violence. Limited knowledge in this area across the campus presented some challenges that Angelina had to work through to enhance the partnership with AVC to ensure campus committee needs were met. In 2017, through comprehensive review, the committee found there was a lack of awareness about the policy and procedures regarding sexual and interpersonal violence, keywords could not be searched on the campus website, and the contact information for the Title IX Coordinator for reporting was missing. **Valley Oasis worked with the campus to begin the process of updating key factors such as the inclusion of the Title IX Coordinators contact information in the policy and procedures, develop trainings for students and staff to bring policy and procedure education and awareness to the campus, and updating the campus website for the keyword search.**

In order to address lack of awareness of Policies, student and staff rights and responsibilities, and procedures, Angelina teamed up with First Year Experience to develop a training to facilitate during their student Summer Boot Camp. During this training, she utilized the AVID World Café learning model. She has teamed up with BIT to provide training during each semesters FLEX training for staff. **This training would be for one hour and would provide peer learning and education on AVC policy and procedures relating to sexual and interpersonal violence, confidentiality, how/who to report to and who are the campuses “responsible employees”.** Angelina has also teamed up with Student Equity to provide prevention education events to student and staff.

Now, in 2020, Currently **Valley Oasis is working to develop training on Trauma-Informed Responses for both campus law enforcement as well as Cadets in AVC’s Law Enforcement Academy Program that will provide training and skills practice through a series of 15-minute briefings on the following:**

- Victim rights
- Trauma-Informed responses
- How and when to contact the SA/DV campus advocate
- Campus protocol for victim reporting on formal versus informal

With a solid foundation laid, lots of time working side by side to develop trusting relationships, Valley Oasis and AVC are on the verge of getting a comprehensive mandatory sexual assault, dating violence and stalking education, prevention and outreach section added to the campuses’ policy and procedures. **This policy includes outreach and school-wide events centered on awareness, prevention, risk reduction and resources on campus and in the community as well as a part of the incoming student’s orientation to include at a minimum, all of the following:**

- Warning signs of intimate partner and dating violence,
- Campus policies and resources relating to intimate partner and dating violence,
- Off-campus resources and centers relating to intimate partner dating violence,
- A focus on prevention and bystander intervention training as it relates to intimate partner and dating violence.

**Along the way they overcame challenges of:**

1. Disengagement
2. How to enhance awareness and education on Title IX Compliance

3. How to encourage the use of critical thinking skills to help identify opportunity that would enhance student safety,

Angelina, with the support of the Valley Oasis team met each challenge with grace and understanding, respecting the importance of learning the campus culture, which came with its own style of communication and system of acquiescence. She found herself having to remember the generational differences between her and a campus member and how that generation gap may relate to someone's beliefs and/or biases and how this work may be triggering to individuals tasked with collaborating with Angelina.

Angelina echoes many other RPE practitioners who attribute their success in schools with building positive and trusting relationships.

**Here are her tips to relationship building with schools:**

1. Don't always go in with an "ask."
2. Demonstrate that you have a vested interest in the students and staff by attending various campus events. Take this opportunity to get to know the students, club leaders, and campus administrators in a fun and non-threatening environment.
3. Offer to help/volunteer in campus events that do not necessarily relate to your work but can provide an opportunity for you to get to know the students and staff and allows them to get to know you.
4. Get to know people through formal and informal meetings (i.e. if someone is sick take them some tea or drop off a "hope you are feeling better" card).
5. ALWAYS send a personal hand written "Thank You" card to anyone who has supported you or allowed you to help them.

Prevention work is a long process and often time preventionists get discouraged in the slow and lengthy process. Angelina and Valley Oasis would like to remind you that Rome was not built in a day and welcomes any phone calls or emails when you need a little extra boost.

Angelina's email: [aalvarez@avdvc.org](mailto:aalvarez@avdvc.org)

*This communication is supported by the California Department of Public Health, Safe and Active Communities Branch, Rape Prevention and Education (RPE) Program, through funding from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (Cooperative Agreement 5 NUF2CE002403) .*

[Newsletter](#) | [Yahoo Group](#) | [CALCASA](#) | [PreventConnect](#)

[View as Webpage](#)