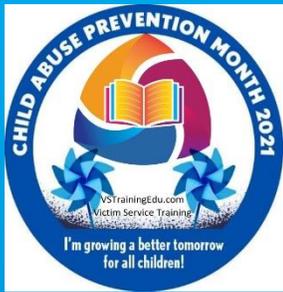


## ADVOCATE LIFE



*Advocacy is a way of life!*

*"Advocacy is not just a job, it is a way of life. Advocates embody their values, beliefs, and carry on their mission to help and heal the most vulnerable. Advocates should be recognized as professionals in their field and they deserve to have specialized training that will allow them to be accredited in the victim services field."*

*Rosie Martinez,  
CA*



## About Us

### Meet Rosie Martinez, CA

Rosie is the Executive Director for VSTraining EDU and has 20 years of experience in the victim services field. She is nationally accredited by the National Advocacy Credentialing Program and has a designation of Advanced Level as a Comprehensive Victim Intervention Specialist.

#### Specialty Training and Experience:

- 20 years of continuous victim services experience in system based & community-based programs
- \*Certification by Baylor University for "Motivational Interviewing" for Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Youths
- \*Certification by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice in Victim Assistance
- Certification by the Office of Victims of Crime in Victim Assistance
- \*Certification by the Office of the Attorney General in Crime Victim Compensation- Advanced Track and Presumptive Eligibility PE#13-1204-RM
- \*Certification by the Office of the Governor Child Sex Trafficking Team "Train the Trainer" for the Commercial Sexual Exploitation Screening Tool (CSE-IT)
- \*Certification by Baylor University for "Motivational Interviewing" for Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Youths
- \*Certification by the Corporation for National Service as an Americorps VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America)
- \*Certification by the Hidalgo County Juvenile Court for the Juvenile Court Conference Committee
- \*Certification by Women Together Foundation, Texas Council on Family Violence, and Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid in Legal Advocacy

## this issue

- Victim Services Training EDU P.1**
- Child Abuse Prevention Month P.2**
- Sexual Assault Awareness Month P.3**
- NCVRW & Upcoming Events P.4**

### VSTrainingEDU was created by Advocates for Advocates

Victim Services Training EDU is committed to provide specialized training for victim services professionals by providing trauma-informed care training, prevention education, and the ability to receive national accreditation with our courses. The goal is to provide the most innovative training that is research based, trauma informed care, and following national trends and up-to date policies and legislation in victims' rights and services to ensure Advocates receive the upmost professional training that will allow them to provide quality direct service care to victims of crime.

We offer a variety of training opportunities for victim assistance professionals at all levels. Our dynamic trainings include self-paced on-line tutorials, live webinars, in-person trainings, and podcasts in English & Spanish.

**Visit our website to learn more of these specialty trainings offered**



VSTrainingEDU.com



**Abril es el Mes Nacional de la Prevención del Abuso de Menores**

ENCUENTRE HERRAMIENTAS, CONSEJOS Y RECURSOS EN [CHILDWELFARE.GOV/PREVENTIONMONTH](http://CHILDWELFARE.GOV/PREVENTIONMONTH)



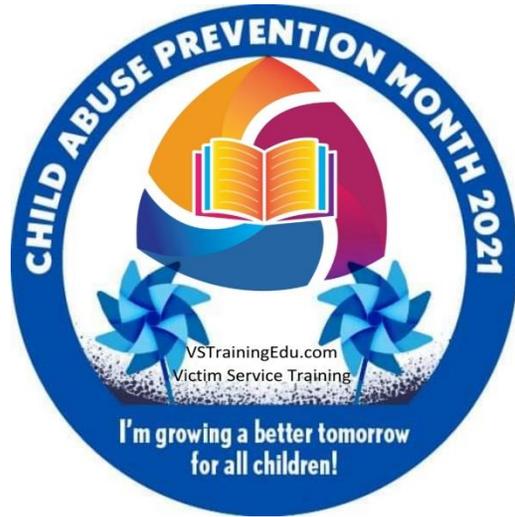
En Español:

Abril es el mes de concientización sobre el abuso infantil. Cada año las defensoras de víctimas se dedican a crear educación de prevención para prevenir el abuso encotra de los niños. Todos podemos hacer also para crear conciencia sobre este crimen que afecta miles de niños. Las estadísticas indican que:

- ❖ 4.4 Millones de niños son maltratados cada año
- ❖ 7.9 Millones de reportes de maltrato infantil al año
- ❖ 91.4% de niños son maltratados por sus padres
- ❖ 142,710 son puesto a cuidado del estado
- ❖ 1840 niños murieron por maltrato en 2019
- ❖ 5 niños mueren diariamente por maltrato infantil

## Protejamos a los Niños

La crianza afectiva es importante en todas las edades. Los padres promueven el desarrollo de sus hijos al dedicarles tiempo y escucharlos, participar y mostrar interés en la escuela y actividades de sus hijos, estar al tanto de sus intereses y amigos, y estar ispuestos a abogar por sus hijos y jóvenes cuando sea necesario.



## April is Child Abuse Prevention Month

To learn more on what you can do for Child Abuse Prevention month, please visit: [National Child Abuse Prevention Month \(childwelfare.gov\)](http://NationalChildAbusePreventionMonth(childwelfare.gov))

### NATIONAL CHILD MALTREATMENT STATISTICS

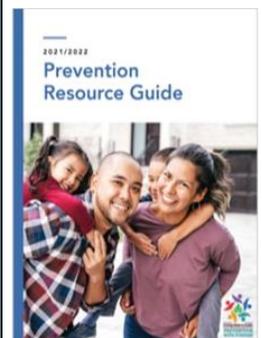
**The statistics of child maltreatment and neglect show the severity of the problem**

- ❖ **4.4 million child maltreatment referral reports received.**
- ❖ **Child abuse reports involved 7.9 million children.**
- ❖ **91.4% of victims are maltreated by one or both parents.**
- ❖ **142,056 children received foster care services.**
- ❖ **491,710 victims (74.9%) are neglected.**
- ❖ **115,100 victims (17.5%) are physically abused.**
- ❖ **60,927 victims (9.3%) are sexually abused.**
- ❖ **39,824 victims (6.1%) are psychologically maltreated.**
- ❖ **Highest rate of child abuse in children under age one (25.7 per 1,000).**
- ❖ **Annual estimate: 1,840 children died from abuse and neglect in 2019.**
- ❖ **Five children die every day from child abuse**

*Pinwheel gardens represent our effort to focus on community activities that support families and public policies that prioritize prevention right from the start to make sure child abuse and neglect never occur. Pinwheels are used to help educate communities about the importance of supporting children and families. Shining in the sun, the pinwheel is reflective of the bright future all children deserve and our belief that getting it right early is less costly than trying to fix it later.*



The 2021/2022 Prevention Resource Guide recognizes that there are actions we can take as a society and within communities, organizations, and families to address the root causes of child abuse and neglect. The child abuse prevention guide seeks to highlight the innovative ways that communities around the country are doing purposeful prevention work to help children and families thrive. The protective factors have always been central to the Resource Guide. A protective factors approach focuses on positive ways to engage families by emphasizing their strengths, in addition to identifying areas where they have room to grow with support. Focusing on protective factors helps children, youth, and families build resilience and contributes to positive outcomes.





## Funding Opportunity

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Rape Prevention and Education (RPE) Program provides funding to fifty states, the District of Columbia, and four territory health departments. These grantees collaborate with state and territory sexual violence coalitions, local rape crisis centers, and various state and community organizations to implement statewide sexual violence prevention plans. These collaborations help to leverage resources, strengthening and enhancing prevention programming

The RPE program was established by the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) and focuses on the primary prevention of sexual violence (stopping violence before it even has the chance to happen). Some of the key guiding principles include preventing perpetration, reducing risk factors and enhancing protective factors, and using the best available evidence to plan, implement, and evaluate prevention programming.

<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/sv-prevention-technical-package.pdf>

# Sexual Assault Awareness Month

## PROCLAMATION

Sexual Assault Awareness Month calls attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread. This proclamation is a clear declaration to join advocates and communities across the country in taking action to prevent sexual violence.



## Day of Action • Wear Teal April 6, 2021



## GET INVOLVED TO PREVENT SEXUAL ASSAULT

**Volunteer:** Local rape crisis centers need the support of volunteers to provide services to victims. You can help them answer hotline calls, help in prevention programs and events. To find the nearest Rape Crisis Center where you can volunteer, please visit the National Sexual Violence Resource Center website at: <https://www.nsvrc.org/get-involved>

**Organize:** Advocates across the nation organize events, walks, art exhibits, social media campaign and rallies to raise awareness about sexual violence. Join the social media campaign against sexual assault and use #SAAM2021 to share your posts and photos. You can wear TEAL throughout the month of April and share your photos on social media

**Learn:** The root causes of sexual violence run deep and are sometimes hard to understand. Learning about sexual violence from resource centers like NSVRC can help you to understand these root causes, helping you to be a part of the national conversation about sexual violence and a more effective advocate for survivors and the work of prevention.

## This Month's Q&A Technology Tips

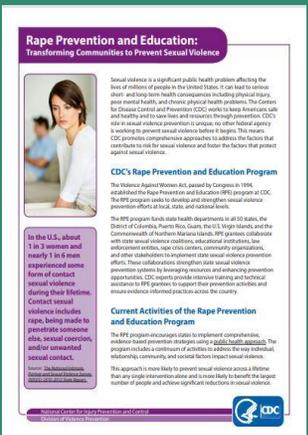
**Q: Did you know that there is a software that will allow you to complete a week's worth of paperwork & grant reports in 30 minutes?**

A.. Victims Services Tracking Software was created by Advocates for Advocates, They understand the importance of having more time to provide victim services and not be stuck doing paperwork. You can manage multiple grants with one software and have multiple users inputting data at the same time. The software can be used in the office, on-site, at home or

Anywhere the Advocate has to provide the direct care. It is user friendly and can be used in English, Spanish and French. During this unprecedented times due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, having the necessary technology and software to work remotely is essential for victim service providers.

You can get a 14 day free trial so you can test the software and you can also do a self guided tour by visiting:

<https://vstracking.com/>





**National Crime Victims Rights Week 2021**

Every April, the Office for Victims of Crime leads communities throughout the country in their annual observances of NCVRW. The 40th anniversary of NCVRW. will be observed April 18–24, 2021.

**Semana Nacional de Los Derechos de Víctimas 2021**

Cada mes de abril, la Oficina de Víctimas de Crimen lidera las comunicades en la nación para observar la semanacional de los derechos de victimas. Este año será el Cuadragésimo Aniversario y se observara del 18-24 de abril del 2021.

**REGISTER, soon space is limited:**  
[www.vstrainingedu.com](http://www.vstrainingedu.com)

**Upcoming FREE Webinars in May 2021**

- **Child Sexual Exploitation Investigations, Human Trafficking, Internet Safety for Kids & Victim Assistance**  
 Collaborative training conducted by Subject Matter Experts from Homeland Security Investigations, Forensic Interviewers, ICE Community Engagement- IGuardian Program & VSTrainingEDU
- **Human Trafficking 101**  
 Collaborative free webinar training conducted by Subject Matter Exeperts from RGV Anti Human Trafficking Taskforce and VSTrainingEDU
- **Budget Adjustments**  
 Learn how to make budget adjustments for grant monies to allow you to expend all the funding you requested.

**FREE Based Live Webinars**

- **Immigration Relief for Undocumented Vicitms of Crime**  
 Learn about the immigration relief options, such as, U-Visas, VAWA Self Petitions, T-Visas and the other non-adjustment options like Continuous Presence, that can be used while the case is being investigated and prosecuted.
- **Best Practices for Grant Writing, Grant Management, Budget Adjustments**  
 This all day course will teach how to write grants and manage them and the process to follow in order to comply with federal and state grant guidelines.



**ROSIE MARTINEZ, CA**  
 NOVA EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER - TREASURER  
 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
 ONLINE WEB SERVICES US  
 National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA)

*"I Advocate to give a voice to the many that suffer abuse in silence. I stand with all victims of crime that suffer in silence because their voices are not heard or they fear to call for help."*

#WhyWeAdvocate

**Why We Advcoate?**

Call to Action: #WhyWeAdvocate

Let's get vocal and celebrate the work you do! Let us know your WHY. We found the #WhyWeAdvocate campaign so inspiring last year that we are bringing it back. We can't wait to hear the reasons that push you forward in your advocacy work.

To learn more of NOVA's NCVRW Events, please visit:

<https://www.trynova.org/ncvrw/>



**VSTrainingEDU**

Contact Us:  
[info@vstrainingedu.com](mailto:info@vstrainingedu.com)  
[www.vstrainingedu.com](http://www.vstrainingedu.com)