



WOMEN AND GENDER ADVOCACY CENTER

ANNUAL REPORT

FALL 2018 - SPRING 2019



WOMEN AND GENDER
ADVOCACY CENTER
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

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WGAC FAQ

What does the WGAC do?

- We like to say that our office has two branches that live on the same tree: Programming and Advocacy.
- WGAC provides programs and resources focusing on social justice, and interpersonal violence prevention for all genders.
- Additionally, WGAC provides advocacy and support for victims of sexual violence, stalking, sexual harassment and relationship violence.
- Our purpose is to provide a safe and affirming space for the students we serve at CSU, while supporting systemic change to end all forms of oppression within our community.

What are some of the misconceptions about WGAC?

- That we only serve a few survivors a year (or the same number of survivors as reported in the CSU safety bulletin each fall): In reality, we served over 400 survivors last year and are on track to out pace that number (already served 380 in Fall 2019).
- That services are for women: There is actually very little gendered language in any of our VAT marketing. And unless a program is specifically about a particular gender (ie. Men in the Movement), most programming marketing is also gender-neutral. This misconception comes from the broader societal misconception that Interpersonal Violence (IPV) only happens to women, which is not true. While it IS true that IPV is a deeply gendered phenomenon, we operate from the framework that anyone of any gender can either perpetrate or experience IPV.

Why is WGAC important?

- We provide 100% confidential resources for survivors of IPV. We are one of the only campuses in the country to have a 24- hour, 365 days a year hotline that has been in existence for over 40 years.
- IPV is a retention issue on college campuses, CSU included.
- The educational programming we provide has had a positive impact on the rates of violence and/or how victims of violence experience the aftermath.
- Our men's programming is one of the oldest in the country.
- More and more prospective students are expecting that campuses have programs like ours and are able to speak to the issue of IPV on campus in open and transparent ways.
- Even though our numbers continue to increase, there is no way we are serving all survivors considering that in the US, 1 in 4 women, 1 in 6 men and 1 in 2 transgender individuals will experience IPV in their life. Additionally, of the incoming class who went through Ram Orientation 2019, 66% of them indicated they have already had some level of experience with sexual violence before even coming to CSU.

How many students do you employ each year?

- We typically have between 25-30 student employees each semester who fall into one of three categories:
 - Semester Red Whistle Brigade (10 students each semester)
 - Summer Red Whistle Brigade (8 Students)
 - Student Aides (10-12 each semester)

DSA STRATEGIC GOALS

Goal: High Quality Academic and Co-Curricular Programs

- Trained additional students as victim assault advocates through the 40 hour Victim Assistance Training which they could apply on campus or in a local/state/national sexual violence and/or relationship violence crisis center/hotline
- Provided educational programs for undergraduate students via the classroom, residence halls and student organizations
- Provided the opportunity for students to become peer educators on sexual assault through our Intro to Gender Based Violence class
- Provided support and resources for Fraternities and Sororities Against Sexual Assault
- Provided survivors with the opportunities to tell their stories at Take Back the Night, at the #MeToo and Radical Self Love event and, on the Speakers Bureau

Goal: Student Learning Success

- Provided support and advocated for the needs of students seeking our services as it relates to their ability to be successful in the classroom
- Communicated with several faculty on behalf of students seeking our services
- Continued to be invited into the first-year Honor's program to facilitate consent and healthy relationship workshops with every section of honors
- Worked with the Office of Financial Aid to adjust policies and procedures related to retro-withdrawal, appeals process and warning letters
- Continued to produce two in-house podcasts in partnership with KCSU - *Do You Even Lift Bro: Men Exercising Social Justice* and *We Believe You: Advocacy, Resources, and Healing around Interpersonal Trauma*
- Worked with other offices and departments to make sure students find the resources and support they need to be retained at CSU



DSA STRATEGIC GOALS CONT.

Goal: Public Interaction / Strategic Partnerships

- Ongoing efforts to collaborate and co-sponsor programs with other SDPS offices
- Academic departments: workshops for Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research (CWSGR), Human Sexuality, Social Work, and Master's and doctoral level Education classes
- Continued relationship with CSU-PD to identify ongoing collaborations/trainings
- Ongoing strong relationship with OTP and Ram Orientation for new students
- Working closely with Health Network on programming and victim advocacy collaborations including programs for survivors and support groups
- Residence Life: continue to have a strong and ongoing collaborative relationship with the A/R D, and RA staff to offer comprehensive programming, to participate in RA training during the fall/winter and at least one staff member co-facilitates a section of the RA course. Additionally, HDS funds part of our Assistant Director of Education position.
- Ethnic Studies: Monica and Carl are both adjunct faculty for Ethnic studies
- Center for Women's Studies and Gender Research: Monica, Angelica, and Casey are all adjunct faculty for CWSGR

Goal: Excellence Hiring, Professional Development, Employee Engagement

- Ongoing efforts for professional development at national conferences
- Intentional efforts to address morale through supplemental pay, schedule flexibility, and massage certificates at the CSU rec center
- Implemented monthly consultation with member of the counseling staff to address vicarious trauma with advocates
- Successfully increased base salary for all coordinator positions

Goal: Diversity, Equity and Campus Climate

- Intentional integration of diversity and social justice topics during the Feminist Thought and Activism Conference
- Intentional integration of identity into the planning of all events and workshops
- Collaborated with other SDPS offices/students, and with residence life on several programs throughout the year
- Provide ongoing training for student staff on multiple aspects of identity and differences
- Staff and student involvement with Campus Step-Up, the Annual H.S. Diversity Conference the Diversity Symposium and other similar events on campus



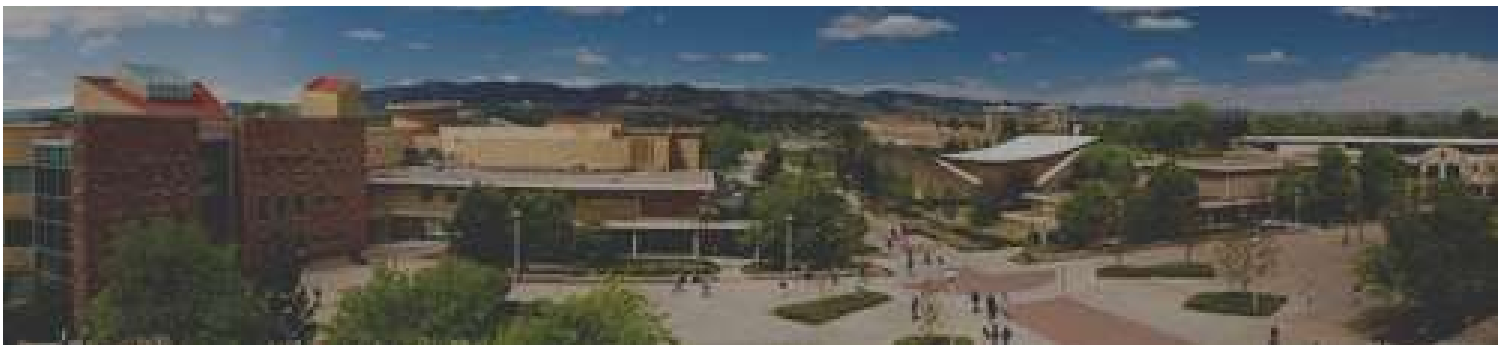
DSA STRATEGIC GOALS CONT.

Publications | Awards | Honors | Recognition

- Victoria Benjamin
 - Portraits of Resiliency
- Casey Malsam
 - Hazaleus Award
- Monica Rivera
 - CBS News Featured Guest: *Why it's never too early to teach kids about consent*. CBS News Special Report – Sex. Consent. Education
 - Education Week 10 BIG Ideas Special Report- Vol. 38, Issue 17, *A Practical Framework for Teaching Consent*
 - Jeanne Clery Lecture Series Keynote Speaker, Barnard College & Columbia University
 - Everfi Sexual Assault Prevention Symposium Panel Member, Denver
 - Journal: Addressing Sexual Violence in Higher Education and Student Affairs, New Directions for Student Services

Committees | Boards | Memberships

- Victoria Benjamin
 - Pregnant/Parenting/Caregiver Committee
 - Advisory group for whiteness programming
 - BASE Camp Board of Directors.
- Angelica Murray Olsen
 - LEAD committee
 - Safe Zone Facilitator
- Casey Malsam
 - CAPP leadership counsel
 - Faculty for the NOVA campus advocate training and curriculum review
 - CCASA policy committee and the campus planning committee
- Elizabeth Amoa-Awuah
 - Safe Zone Facilitator
 - University Sexuality Education Task Force
 - Pride Retreat Planning Committee
 - Adviser for BAPPQ
 - Multiracial and Transracial Adoptee Student Support Committee
- Monica Rivera
 - President's Commission on Women and Gender Equity
 - Core Collaborators - Women and Gender Collaborative
 - Title IX Oversight Committee
 - Interim measures sub committee
 - Informal resolution sub committee
 - Campus Safety Advisory Committee
 - Poudre School District Equity and Diversity Advisory Council





PEOPLE

who we are and how we do things around here...



CORE STAFF:

We spent most of the year being mostly fully staffed which feels like the norm for us. The Assistant Director of Educational Programs position was vacant for the Fall which meant that other programming staff pitched in to carry the load and we struggled with gaps in advocacy due to circumstances beyond our control. We were excited to welcome Elizabeth, Victoria, Jenna and Courtney to the team for the spring semester.



STUDENT STAFF:

The shift to referring to all student employees as "student staff" (as opposed to only using "aides" or "brigade") continued through 2018-2019 as we believe it has helped us build a more cohesive student employee group.



VOLUNTEERS AND REPRESENTATIVES:

In 2018-19 VAT answered a record number of hotline calls. Our volunteers answered 212 calls and provided 83 hours of support. This is a 56% increase in calls and a 22% increase in hours. In addition to providing confidential services on the hotline these volunteers volunteered at events, providing in person support for survivors engaging in community on campus.

We have also received solid support from our student representation on Senate, Student Fee Review Board, Presidents Multicultural Student Advisory Committee, and Ram Events.

Meet *OUR*

CORE STAFF



Elizabeth Amoa-Awuah (she|her)

Assistant Director of Educational Programs

Elizabeth joined the team in Spring 2019. She is passionate about designing culturally inclusive and trauma-informed educational strategies. Her background is in interpersonal violence prevention research, outreach, and education. She has conducted qualitative research on sexual aggression and bystander intervention as well as quantitative research on life history theory and sociosexuality. In her spare time, Elizabeth loves spending time with her pup, Bug, and exploring all that Fort Collins has to offer.

Victoria Benjamin (she|her)

Victim Advocate

Victoria is a first-generation college graduate and CSU alum. She's an intersectional feminist with a background in massage therapy & energy work. Her personal experiences as a white, cis-gender, working-class single mother & survivor helped her understand the nuanced importance of contending with dominant identities, especially Whiteness, while also healing from trauma. She loves the month of October, spending time with her partner & children, watching stand-up comedy, making herbal infusions, & raging against white supremacy & the patriarchy.



Courtney Kavanagh (she|her)

Victim Advocate

Courtney, was born and raised in beautiful Denver, Colorado. She earned a BA from CSU in Human Development & Family Studies with a minor in Criminal Justice. She identifies as a biracial woman of color, who is passionate about supporting survivors, and creating social change. She has been connected to the WGAC since 2017, during her time as an undergraduate. While in her free time, she enjoys live music, road trips, along with all the beauty and fun activities Colorado has to offer.



Casey Malsam (she|her)

Assistant Director of Victim Services

Casey has been with the WGAC for 6 years and provides leadership for victim services. She works to provide prevention and advocacy from an intersectional and social justice lens. Casey holds B.A. from the University of Kansas in Art History with a minor in Women's Studies and an M.A. from Lake Forest College in Liberal Studies with a concentration in Women's Studies. She is currently working on a second M.A. at Colorado State University in Mental Health Counseling. In her free time, Casey can often be found in the mountains or diving into a good book.



Jenna Matsumura (she|her)

Victim Advocate

Jenna is a cis, queer, biracial woman of Color. Before moving to CSU, she worked at the University of Utah supporting women's enrollment & retention. She found her way to gender advocacy through her undergraduate studies in Environmental & Sustainability Studies at the U of U as well as her graduate internships through the Higher Education & Student Affairs program at the University of Vermont. Her approach to advocacy & student affairs is rooted in critical thought, intersectional feminism, and justice





Angelica Murray Olsen (she|her)

Program Coordinator

Angelica landed at CSU by way of California where she attended the University of San Francisco and earned her MA in Organization and Leadership. She's also an alumna of Sigma Lambda Gamma National Sorority, Incorporated and enjoys the opportunities she get to work with multicultural sororities and Women of Color on campus. Fighting oppression is hard work and when she's not doing this, Angelica can be seen enjoying the many festivals and events that Fort Collins has to offer, making frequent trips to IKEA, and playing board games with friends.

Monica Rivera (she|her)

Director

Monica is originally from the east coast, specifically Jersey. She is an Instructor in the Women's Studies & Ethnic Studies Departments where she teaches courses on violence prevention, gender socialization, and racial/ethnic representations in popular media. Monica holds a BA in Sociology from Syracuse University and an MA in Sociology from CSU. In her free time, Monica is a documentary photographer, avid reader and budding Thanatologist. She is also the proud adoptive mom to two small humans, Mateo and Santino.



*EMPLOYMENT ENDED IN SPRING 2019



Jessica Mournealt (she|her)

Victim Advocate

Jessica has served as a counselor and advocate with a community based rape crisis center, providing confidential crisis counseling, advocacy, and support groups for survivors and secondary survivors of sexual violence. Jessica is deeply passionate about providing culturally sensitive, trauma-informed care for survivors of interpersonal violence through an intersectional and social justice framework. In her spare time, you'll find her curled up with a good book or hiking outdoors and wishing she had a dog.

Carl Olsen (he|him)

Men's Program and Violence Prevention Coordinator

Carl has been with CSU for 15 years, first as a student and then with the WGAC beginning in 2013 as the Program Coordinator for Men's Programming & Violence Prevention. He has been pivotal in helping the WGAC grow men's engagement, the Fraternities and Sororities Against Sexual Assault course, and the Do You Even Lift Bro? podcast. He has used his passion for creating inclusive spaces and practices to inform his advocacy as well as peer education through Men in the Movement and the Red Whistle Brigade.

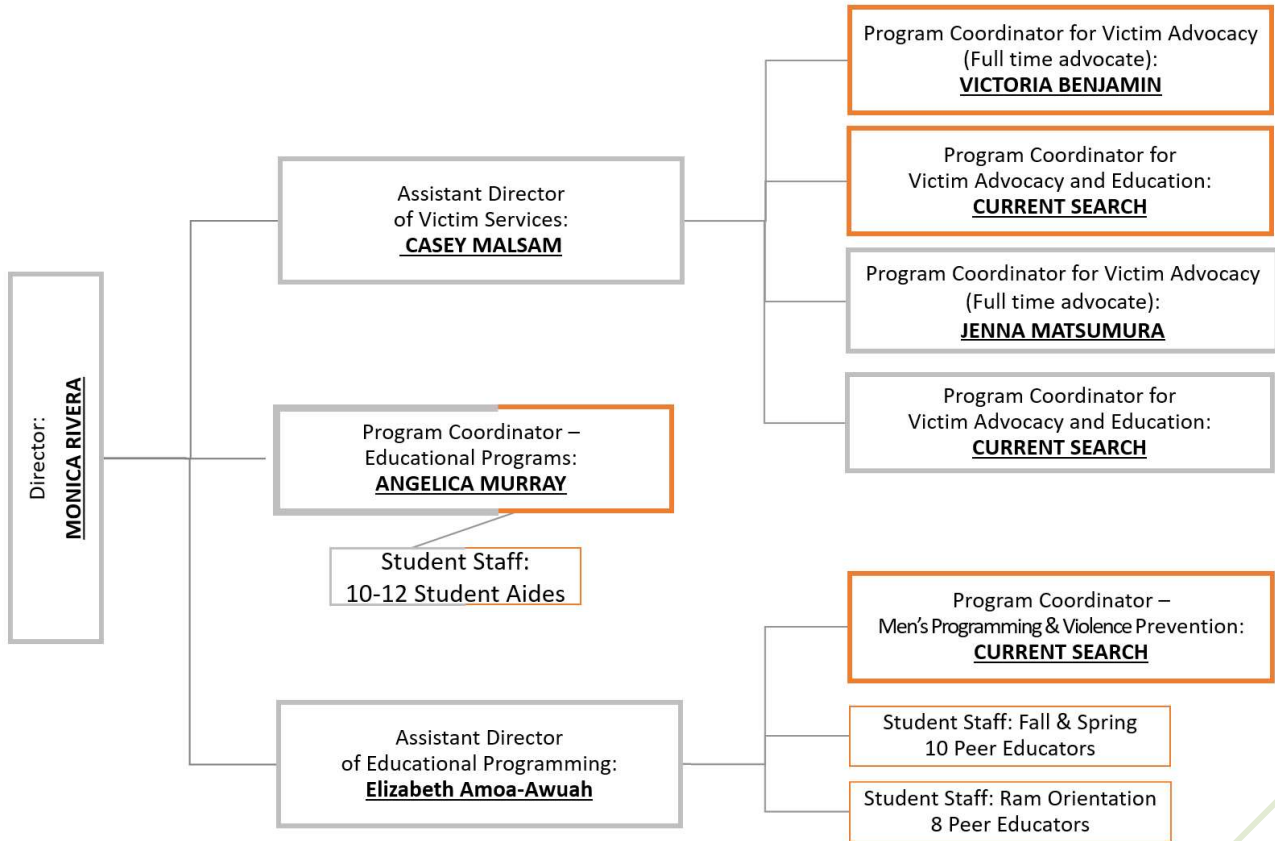


Marie Harding (she|her)

Victim Advocate

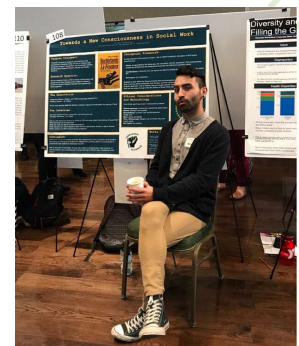
Marie earned her BA in Sociology from CSU. As an undergraduate, she was connected with WGAC and involved in the Red Whistle Brigade as well as the Victim Assistance Team. Marie was able to educate students about interpersonal violence, consent, healthy relationships, gender socialization, intersectionality and supporting survivors. Marie approaches advocacy from an intersectional social justice lens, and finds it important to validate all identities and create an inclusive space for students.

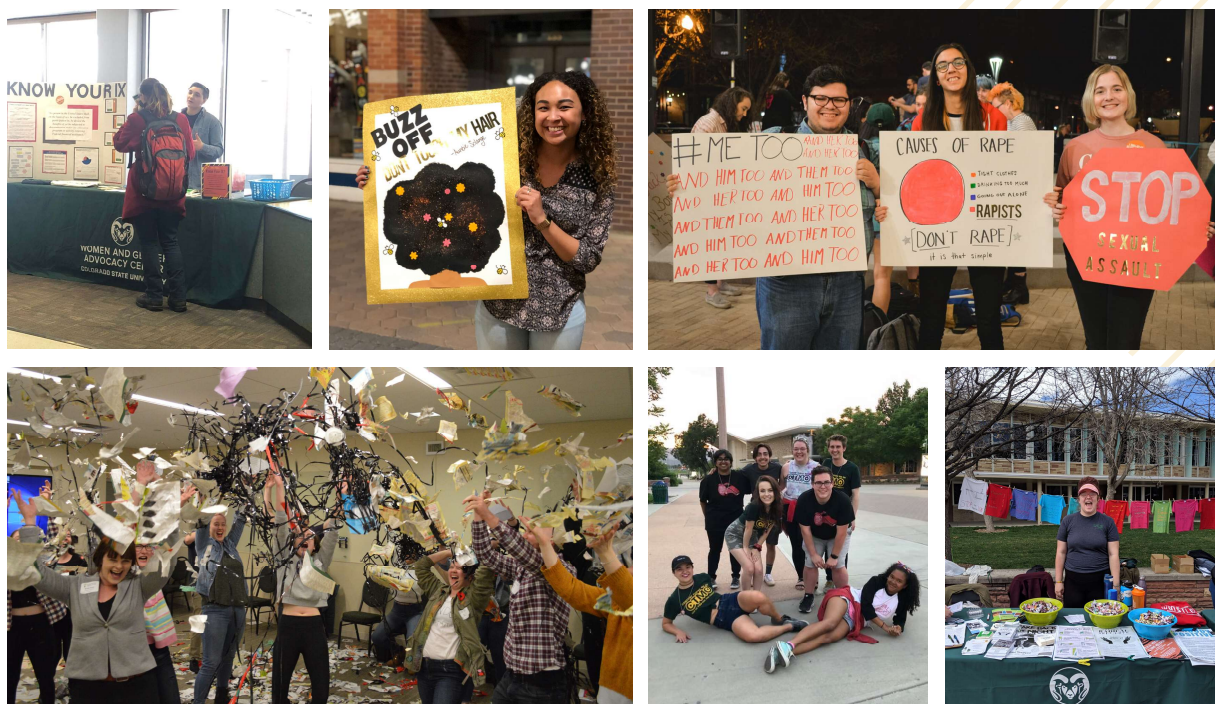
FALL 2019 ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



 = PARTIALLY OR FULLY STUDENT FEE FUNDED

We love our STUDENTS



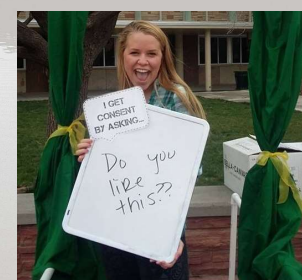


IN MEMORY OF HELEN ANNE ABBY, 20



The WGAC was heartbroken to lose an incredible student, Helen Abbey in April 2019. Anyone who knew Helen remembers her bright smile and passion for ending interpersonal violence. Her commitment to supporting survivors and using her voice to create change on campus was contagious. Monica was fortunate to have her as a student in her Gender-Based Violence course where Helen always demonstrated a sharp mind, a willingness to hold complexities, and an unstoppable determination to make the world a better place. She performed a piece of her poetry, titled *Flashbacks*, at our Red Whistle Brigade Zine Release Party and was always front and center talking with students at SAAM events.

Helen's family has been public about the fact that she died by suicide. In fact, they had suicide educators at her funeral... which, by the way, was a very "Helen" thing to do. :) In honor of her memory and her unshakable determination to raise awareness about topics that many people find difficult to talk about, we would like to ask anyone reading this to take a moment and visit afsp.org to learn more about suicide prevention. As is too often the case, Helen will be missed more than she likely realized but the WGAC is committed to continuing her legacy of fierce advocacy and education on behalf of survivors.





FEEDBACK

IS

LOVE

GUIDING

PHILOSOPHIES

*How we do things
around here...*

We believe feedback is love. And much like love, giving and receiving feedback is a learned skill that we must all practice.

We believe transparency fosters empowered, informed and collaborative decision-making at all levels.

We strive for proactive inclusivity and work to minimize harm by asking questions like "who or what is missing?" and "what might the impact be?" from the beginning.

We believe that asking questions makes us better and ultimately benefits our communities.

We are committed to personal, professional and academic growth of everyone involved with our center.

Our work is informed by intersectional feminist praxis. Which is a fancy way of saying that we verb the heck out of concepts like social justice, intersectionality and liberation.

We believe in open doors (literally and metaphorically) and are invested in knowing and understanding one another.

We remaining grounded in, and outwardly projecting, a sense of hope and optimism while also honoring & validating the full range of human emotions.

We are all responsible for the success of this center. We all contribute (positively and/or negatively) to how it feels to be a part of WGAC.

We say... down with social justice elitism and arrogance, up with dialog, playful humor & humility.

ADVOCACY

Review of confidential victim advocacy services

OVERVIEW:

This year we continued to do excellent work providing support to primary survivors, secondary survivors, and the larger campus community. The advocacy team was able to offer four different group experiences in addition to individual support helping to ensure a wide range of healing opportunities. It was another year of high volume in which we saw 461 survivors for over a thousand hours of service. This indicates that people have a trust in the care we take with people's stories.

We did all of this with a fair amount of turnover and change within the advocacy team. During the course of the year we were able to manage unexpected leave and advocates moving on to new professional opportunities with hiring excellent part time advocates. We are excited to welcome 2 new full-time advocates in F19 and another in S20. We will spend this year getting to build and vision an advocacy team that proudly works to meet the needs of our community.

Advocates served
a total of

461
survivors
in 2018-2019

Welcome to this display
of the Clothesline Project

THE CLOTHESLINE PROJECT

Is a national effort to raise awareness of violence. Survivors of violence and their loved ones create t-shirts to share their stories which then hang shoulder-to-shoulder on a clothesline for public display, break the silence. The project helps those touched by violence to speak and heal, and educates the public about this national

The Clothesline Project Color

While not all shirts follow the color code, in general, the shirts indicate different types of violence and

- Red, Orange, Pink =
- Blue, Green = Child
- Yellow, Tan, Brown = Violence
- Purple, Lavender = on sexual orient
- White = Remem died from violen
- Black = Hate crim

Would you like to ma

member here at the display.
Help us break the silence!

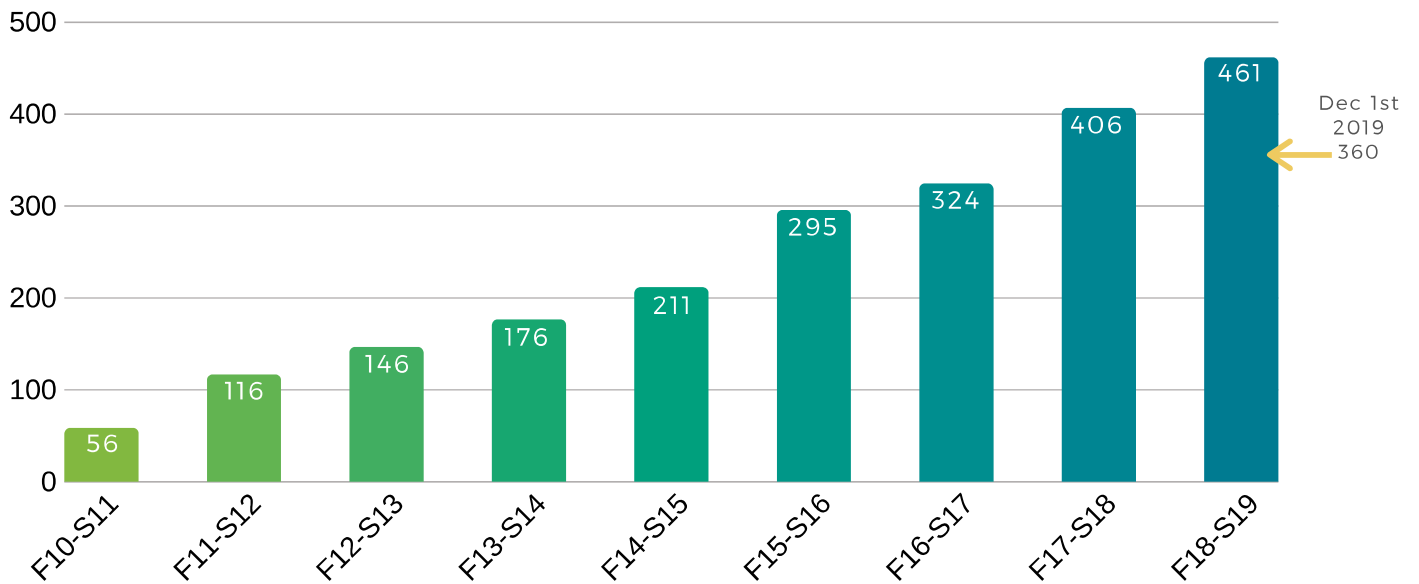
69%

of survivors sought out
advocacy for interpersonal
violence that occurred
within the past year

VICTIM ADVOCACY

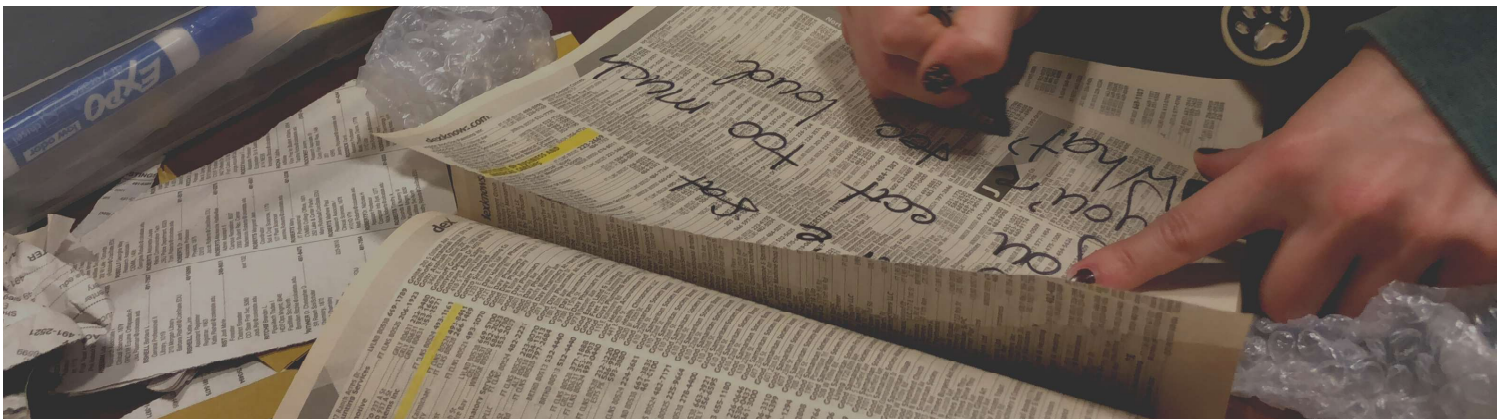
- 3127 interventions to 461 survivors (332 new survivors)
 - Summer 2018: 73 new cases
 - Fall 2018: 108 new cases
 - Spring 2019: 149 new cases
- The on-call Victim Assistance Team volunteers received 212 calls and provided 83.07 hours of these interventions.
 - 2017-2018 VAT calls = 136.
 - 56% increase in calls and a 22% increase in hours
- Significant volume during the first 2-3 weeks of fall semester & after home football weekends

TOTAL SURVIVORS:



NOTABLE TRENDS

- Our numbers are continuing to increase at the same exponential rate that they have been over the past 6 years.
- We had double the male survivors seek services this year compared to last year.
- The addition of a full time advocate helped to keep the advocacy hours more located in the core advocacy team this year. As a result, this year the programming staff provided 20 hours of advocacy compared to 28.9 last year and 68.5 the year prior.
- Even with the addition of a full time Victim Advocate to the advocacy team, the increase in survivors meant that, similar to the previous 2 years, we continued to spend less time with each survivor. This suggests that the advocates are at capacity for the number of hours they can provide. Less time with each survivor translates to less follow up and outreach which certainly has an impact on our ability to provide necessary support and retain survivors.



CSU AFFILIATION:

- 68.7% undergraduate student
 - 20.3% first year
 - 13.7% sophomore
 - 8.3% junior
 - 10.2% senior
 - 20% undergrad year unknown
- 5.7% graduate student
- 4.1% faculty/staff
- 1.3% alumni
- 5.1% unaffiliated
- 10.5% anonymous

TYPE OF VIOLENCE:

- 62% Sexual violence
 - 52.1% sexual assault
 - 6.7% adult survivor of child sexual abuse
 - 1.6% sexual harassment
 - 1.6% attempted sexual assault
- 12.1% stalking
- 24.8% relationship violence
- 15.2% other



IN

THIS

CENTER

WE

BELIEVE

SURVIVORS

TIME SINCE VIOLENCE



- 6.1% less than 24 hours
- 21.1% 24 hours -5 days
- 8% within past month
- 15% 1 month to 1 year
- 9.9% 1-5 years
- 4.2% 5+ year
- 14.7% ongoing
- 4.2% historical (time unknown)
- 4.5% recent (time unknown)
- 12.4% anonymous

LOCATION OF VIOLENCE



- 52.1% off campus
- 19.2% on campus
- 5.1% on and off campus
- 2.5% primarily Electronic
- 19.5% anonymous



REPORTING - POLICE

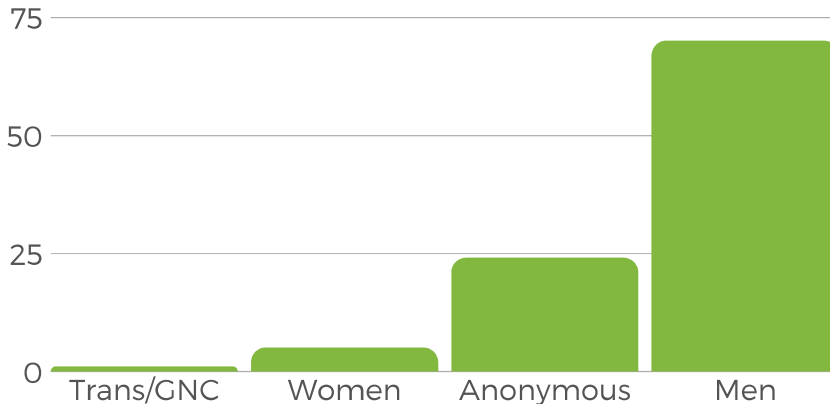
- 20.4% reported to the police
- 41.2% not reported
- 10% undecided
- 22.7% unknown
- 5.1% N/A

REPORTING - UNIVERSITY

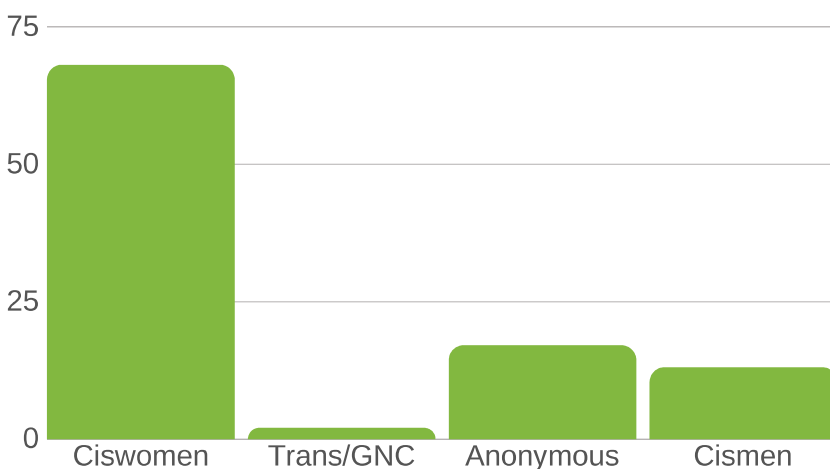
- 24.2% of reported to the university (29.4% not eligible because perpetrator was non-affiliated)
- 9.6% are undecided
- 14.4 are unknown

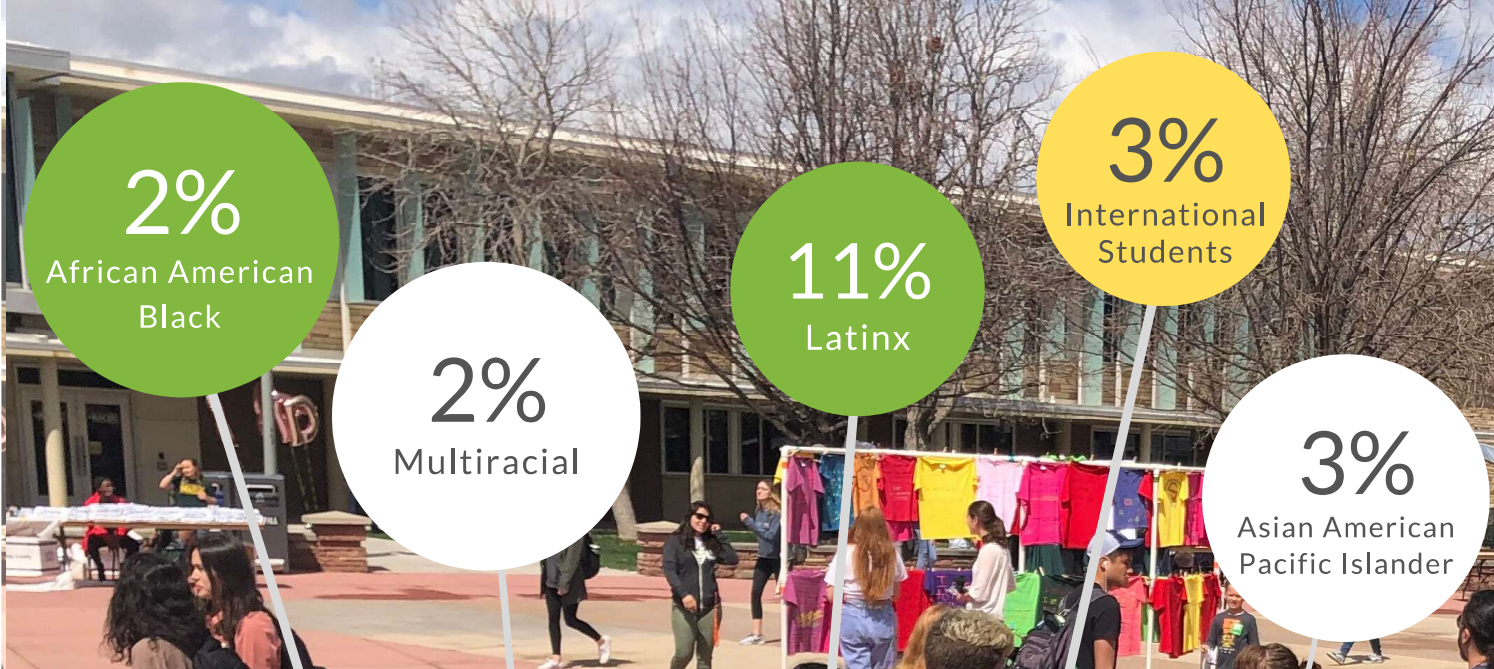
GENDER DYNAMICS OF PERPETRATION AND VICTIMIZATION

PERPETRATORS



SURVIVORS





2%
African American
Black

2%
Multiracial

11%
Latinx

3%
International
Students

3%
Asian American
Pacific Islander

SURVIVOR DEMOGRAPHICS



1%
Native
American

36%
White

9%
Disabled

7%
FS Life
Affiliation

2%
ROTC

18%
Students of
Color

37%
Anonymous



PROGRAMMING

Review of educational programming efforts

STRENGTHS:

- Constant innovation with new energy from new staff
- Highly collaborative year
- Hired a new AD of Education
- Began developing "programming philosophy" to guide the goals and strategies for programming on campus

CHALLENGES:

- Having a new AD has many strengths, but it also means that a large portion of time and energy goes into training
- Programming and advocacy still feel like separate sides of the office. Would like to see more overlap.
- After 5 years with us, our Men's Programming and Violence Prevention Coordinator resigned to take on a new position outside of Higher Education

SEXUAL ABUSE

1 IN 4 WOMEN

1 IN 6 MEN

1 IN 2 TRANSG INDIVIDUALS

Will experience sexual assault in lifetime.

26% OF PEOPLE

ARE COMMITTED BY CURRENT OR FORMER SPOUSE, BOYFRIEND, OR

41.6% OF PEOPLE

Will experience sexual violence in their lifetime.

(In 2014) 22% of black women were raped, 41% experienced forms of sexual violence.

7.9% of Latinas were raped or experienced sexual violence in their lifetime.

WGAC PODCASTS

ADVOCACY PODCAST

WE BELIEVE YOU: ADVOCACY, RESOURCES, & HEALING AROUND INTERPERSONAL TRAUMA

Description: In each episode, members of the WGAC advocacy team explore the concepts and practices associated with healing after trauma. We share tips, strategies and resources around sexual assault, relationship violence and stalking, as well as explore the ways that identity has an impact on healing.



PREVENTION EDUCATION PODCAST

DO YOU EVEN LIFT, BRO? MEN EXERCISING SOCIAL JUSTICE

Description: Let's be real. Men need to bring up their social justice game, and we believe there are men out there who want to but don't know how. Peter and Carl don't have all the answers, but they believe that opening up and doing a lot of self-reflection is one of the best ways for men to join the movement. Listen in while they try to model that process.



PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS

SDPS IPV INFORMATION SHEETS

SEXUAL ASSAULT IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY

STATISTICS & FACTS

BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN EXPERIENCE SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER RATES OF PSYCHOLOGICAL ABUSE THAN WOMEN OVERALL— INCLUDING HUMILIATION, INSULTS, NAME-CALLING, AND COERCIVE CONTROL.

60% 60% OF BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN REPORT EXPERIENCING SEXUAL ABUSE BY AGE 18

12% 12% OF BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN REPORT EXPERIENCING VIOLENCE FROM INTIMATE PARTNERS

2/5 TRANS PEOPLE OF COLOR EXPERIENCE SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER RATES OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE.

TWO IN FIVE BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMEN EXPERIENCE PHYSICAL VIOLENCE FROM AN INTIMATE PARTNER. THIS IS AT A HIGHER RATE THAN WHITE, LATINA, AND ASIAN/PACIFIC ISLANDER WOMEN.

THE FIRST RAPE CRISIS CENTERS IN THE U.S. WERE STARTED BY BLACK WOMEN.

For Colorado definitions of sexual assault, stalking, and relationship violence go to <https://wgac.colostate.edu/education/vocabulary/>

HOW CAN WE HELP?

The Women and Gender Advocacy Center offers free, confidential resources for survivors/victims of sexual assault, stalking, and relationship violence. Advocates can: provide emotional support; guide you through academic, legal, medical, and student conduct processes. You may be worried about finding an advocate that identifies similarly to you. We work to maintain a racially-conscious center and believe that you shouldn't have to teach advocates about your identities. You get to determine which advocate is a good fit for you. Our purpose is to provide a safe and affirming space for the students we serve at CSU, while supporting systemic change to end all forms of oppression within our communities.

VIOLENCE IN LGBTQ+ RELATIONSHIPS

STATISTICS & FACTS

31.1% OF TRANSGENDER PEOPLE EXPERIENCE DATING VIOLENCE IN THEIR LIFETIME

42.7% OF LGBTQ+ CSU STUDENTS EXPERIENCED TRAUMATIC OR DIFFICULT INTIMATE PARTNER RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN A 12 MONTH PERIOD (2016-2017)

67.4% OF LESBIAN SURVIVORS REPORTED HAVING ONLY FEMALE PERPETRATORS OF RAPE, PHYSICAL VIOLENCE AND/OR STALKING IN AN INTIMATE PARTNER RELATIONSHIP

BISEXUAL AND GAY MEN EXPERIENCE HIGHER RATES OF INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE THAN HETEROSEXUAL MEN

1/4 - 1/3 OF SAME-SEX RELATIONSHIP IPS HAVE EXPERIENCED RELATIONSHIP VIOLENCE

OVER 1/3 OF THE QUEER SURVIVORS IN THE U.S. ARE BETWEEN THE AGES OF 19 TO 29

For Colorado definitions of sexual assault, stalking, and relationship violence go to <https://wgac.colostate.edu/education/vocabulary/>

HOW CAN WE HELP?

The Women and Gender Advocacy Center offers free, confidential resources for survivors/victims of sexual assault, stalking, and relationship violence. Advocates can provide emotional support and guidance through academic, legal, and medical processes. We believe that you shouldn't have to teach advocates about your identity and work to maintain knowledge and awareness of queer and transgender experiences. Our purpose is to provide a safe and affirming space for the students we serve, while supporting systemic change to end all forms of oppression within our communities.

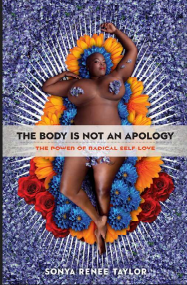
KEYNOTE: THE BODY IS NOT AN APOLOGY

WGAC and RamEvents partnered to host a body image event called The Body is Not An Apology. The event featured Sonya Renee Taylor, poet and author of a book with the same name. This is an educational project geared towards students at CSU that aims to reduce shame and violence, and promote “radical self-love” for all bodies. It’s on topics relating to body image and ways of shifting mindsets and lifestyles; interrupt individual and systemic values that perpetuate shame, violence, and oppression; and advocate for healing and freedom from shame for all bodies.

THE BODY IS NOT AN APOLOGY

with Sonya Renee Taylor

MONDAY, MARCH 4
4:30 - 6:00pm
Longs Peak Room, Lory Student Center
Free and open to the CSU community



“What have we been apologizing for?
What if we stopped?”
- Sonya Renee Taylor

For questions and ADA accommodations contact the WGAC at 970-491-6384

WOMEN AND GENDER ADVOCACY CENTER
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

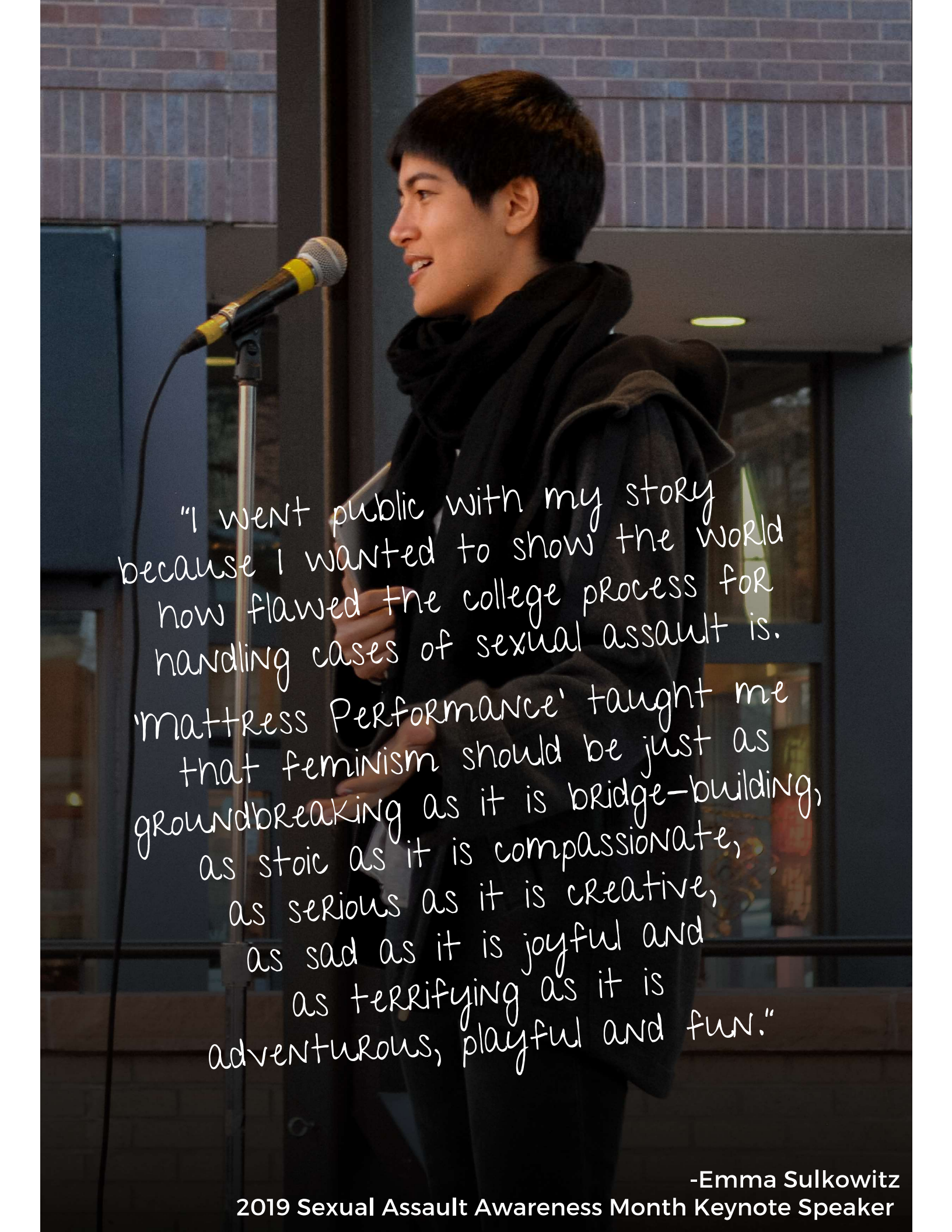
RAM EVENTS

FEMINIST THOUGHT AND ACTIVISM CONFERENCE



2019 marked the 14th year of the Feminist Thought and Activism Conference at CSU and it was our biggest one in recent memory – attendance reached over 250. Conference sessions continued to be as diverse as ever. The keynote, co-sponsored by RamEvents, was a podcast duo called Locatora Radio.





"I went public with my story because I wanted to show the world how flawed the college process for handling cases of sexual assault is. 'Mattress Performance' taught me that feminism should be just as groundbreaking as it is bridge-building, as stoic as it is compassionate, as serious as it is creative, as sad as it is joyful and as terrifying as it is adventurous, playful and fun."

-Emma Sulkowitz
2019 Sexual Assault Awareness Month Keynote Speaker

(PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS CONT)

DISABILITY AND INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE

Red Whistle Brigade partnered with the Student Disability Center for a Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Disability Dialogues collaborative workshop about societal factors that lead to higher rates of sexual violence against people with disabilities.

MEN AS SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT

Led by our Men's Programming and Violence Prevention Coordinator, this workshop highlighted the unique factors that silence men that are survivors of sexual assault as well as ways they can seek support.

THE SEXUAL VIOLENCE THAT NO ONE TALKS ABOUT: STEALTHING

Created and implemented by Red Whistle Brigade, this workshop sought to educate people about a rarely acknowledged form of sexual violence called stealthing in order to highlight the harm it causes as well as how survivors can seek support.

ZINE AND MIXTAPE RELEASE PARTY

This was the fourth year of the zine and the first year for the mixtape. The release party was a place for contributors to showcase their work as well as for audience members to experience a form of expression that acts as both catharsis and healing.

CTMO CARNIVAL

The Consent Turns Me On (CTMO) Carnival is an annual partnership between the WGAC and University Housing to bring consent programming to the residence halls. This year, students were invited to play various games, eat snacks, and win some cool gear all while learning about different elements of consent.

PLAZA DAY

Our annual Plaza Day resource fair was planned and implemented by Student Aides and staffed by WGAC advocates, Men in the Movement, and Red Whistle Brigade. On- and off-campus interpersonal violence resources also tabled including the Sexual Assault Victim Advocate (SAVA) Center, Brazen, Colorado Organization for Latina Opportunity and Reproductive Rights (COLOR), Before Play, and Planned Parenthood.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR IX?

This was responsive peer education about the proposed Title IX changes from the United States Department of Education. Red Whistle Brigade tabled in the Flea Market to educate students on the possible upcoming changes to the Title IX policy and gathered feedback from their peers.







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