

THE MINNESOTA COALITION  
AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT

# 2022 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

THE MINNESOTA COALITION AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT IS A STATEWIDE COALITION DRIVING TRANSFORMATIVE CULTURE CHANGE TO ADDRESS SEXUAL VIOLENCE THROUGH ADVOCACY, PREVENTION, RACIAL JUSTICE, AND SYSTEMS CHANGE.



# 01

## Increased State Investment in Victim Services

### **\$12.5 Million Annual Increase in Base Funding to Crime Victim Services**

In collaboration, Minnesota's crime victim coalitions request the State increase the investment in victims/survivors and the programs that serve them.

Programs need additional government funding to provide critical safety services to survivors and their children. This funding would help fill the direct needs of programs and survivors by providing direct client assistance to survivors, competitive wages for direct service staff, hotel stays, culturally responsive programming, prevention programming, and more.

Administered by the Department of Public Safety's Office of Justice Programs (DPS/OJP).

# 02

## Recommendations from the Predatory Offenders Registration Work Group

The Predatory Offender Registry must change to provide safety, justice, and healing to all communities across Minnesota. The POR, which started as a law-enforcement tool to increase

monitoring of those who may reoffend, has ballooned from its original intention. In some regards, the POR System has aided in community safety. Yet, some facets of the POR system have done little to improve safety, and some have decreased community safety.

MNCASA supports the following recommended changes to improve the POR system: removal of youth from the registry, creating a path for removal from the registry for lifetime registrants, eliminating registration extensions for unrelated jail time, and formation of a working group charged with studying and suggesting further changes to the registry.

# 03

## Remove Barriers to Accessing Crime Victim Reparations

**MNCASA supports the Minnesota Office of Justice Programs' efforts to remove barriers that hinder victims of crime in accessing reparations:**

- Improve the ability for victims of crime to access the program, and change name from "reparations" to "reimbursement."
- Clarification and context surrounding the determination of victim/survivor cooperation with law enforcement.

# 04

## Victims'/Survivors' Rights

MNCASA supports the passage of the Survivor Justice Act/Resentencing Bill, which allows judges to take the domestic abuse experienced by someone who committed a crime into account when determining their sentence; and allows someone already serving time for a crime they committed in connection to their own abuse to apply to have their sentence reduced in light of the abuse.

# 05

## Support 2022 Youth Justice Legislative Priorities\*

MNCASA supports the Minnesota Coalition for Youth Justice legislative agenda which seeks to reform and re-imagine the juvenile justice system by driving policies, practices and programs that reduce racial and ethnic disparities, treat youth and families with dignity, and are informed by anti-racist and culturally sound practices.

# 06

## Support the 2022 Minnesota Renters' Agenda\*

Stable, accessible housing is paramount for victims/survivors of sexual violence to ensure safety and healing. Housing insecurity and unfair rental practices leave people vulnerable to exploitation and abuse. Stable and accessible housing is an important need of victims and survivors to ensure safety and healing. MNCASA supports HOME Line's proposals to address harmful rental housing practices.

### 1. Eviction and Expungement Reforms

- Pre-eviction Notice, HF 20 (Hassan) and SF766 (Dziedzic)
- Expungement Reform, HF 265 (Hassan) and SF771 (Dziedzic)

### 2. Lease Fairness

- Fees for non-optional services and reasonable notice/privacy, HF 399 (Her) and SF773 (Dziedzic)

### \*Supportive Agenda Items

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# ONGOING WORK

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## Sexual Assault Evidentiary Exams: Billing and Reimbursement

MNCASA is convening a working group to assess billing and reimbursement issues presented by sexual assault exams. The working group consists of stakeholders from law enforcement, forensic nursing, victim advocacy, public policy, and hospital administration. The working group is compiling data and will make policy recommendations for billing and reimbursement practices in 2023.



## Racial Justice

MNCASA will intentionally center racial equity as a key principle across all areas of strategy and policy development. MNCASA believes that BIPOC victims/survivors deserve justice and access to affirmation, safety, and systems they can trust and use. To that end, we will apply a racial justice lens to all of our work and work to continuously center the needs and experiences of BIPOC victims/survivors.



## Technical Assistance

Monitor and respond to legislation impacting victims/survivors.



## Sexual Violence Prevention

MNCASA supports local community work to expand healthy relationships and sexual violence prevention education for children and youth.

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# MNCASA MEMBER PROGRAMS

MNCASA IS A MEMBERSHIP ORGANIZATION THAT ACTS AS A COLLECTIVE VOICE OF ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIVIDUALS COMMITTED TO ENDING SEXUAL VIOLENCE.

360 Communities	Hands of Hope Resource Center	Rape and Abuse Crisis Center of Fargo-Moorhead
Advocacy Center of Winona	Hmong American Partnership	Rivers of Hope
Alexandra House, Inc.	HOPE Center	Safe Avenues
Bluff Country Family Resources	HOPE Coalition	SEWA-AIFW(Asian Indian Family Wellness)
Breaking Free	Jacob Wetterling Resource Center	Sexual Assault Program of Northern St. Louis County
Canvas Health - Abuse Response Services	Lakes Crisis and Resource Center	Sexual Assault Services, Inc.
Central MN Sexual Assault Center	Martin County Victim Services	Sexual Violence Center
CLUES - Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio	Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe, Family Violence Prevention Program	Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate
Committee Against Domestic Abuse Inc.	Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center	Someplace Safe
Community Health Services, Inc.	Minnesota Indian Women's Sexual Assault Coalition	SOS Sexual Violence Services
Community University Health Care Center	New Horizons Crisis Center	Southwest Crisis Center
Cook County Attorney's Office	Nobles County Attorney's Office	St. Croix Valley SART
Cornerstone Advocacy Service	Office of Equity & Inclusive Excellence at Winona State University	Standpoint
Crime Victims Resource Center	PAVSA	Support Within Reach
Dodge, Fillmore and Olmsted Victim Services	Pearl Crisis Center	Terebinth Refuge
Enough. YMCA Youth and Family Services	Pennington County Victims Services	The Advocates for Human Rights
Family Pathways	Phumulani Minnesota African Women Against Domestic Violence	The Aurora Center for Advocacy & Education
Freeborn County Crime Victim's Crisis Center	Pillsbury United Communities	ThinkSelf Minnesota Deaf Adult Education & Advocacy
Friends Against Abuse	Prairie Island Indian Community	Tubman
Grand Portage Human Services	Ramsey County Attorney's Office	Violence Intervention Project
Gustavus Adolphus College		Violence Prevention Center
		White Earth DOVE Program
		Women of Nations
		WoMen's Rural Advocacy Programs, Inc. (WRAP)