

It's time ... to collaborate. Here are tips for partnering with men's organizations.

Bringing men into anti-sexual violence work is a key part of primary prevention and long-term social change. Not only do men experience sexual violence, but it impacts their partners, siblings, children, parents, and other people that they love. Changing the norms that support violence against women requires support and insight from men of all ages and backgrounds.

To begin, make a list of the groups and organizations that have large male populations (e.g., fraternities, faith-based groups, athletic teams, veterans' organizations, musicians, fatherhood groups and Boy Scouts, etc.) Approach the leaders of these groups with a specific request, such as giving a workshop on sexual assault during a team meeting or leading a discussion about keeping communities safe. Outline your objectives and clarify any necessary time commitments so participants know what to expect.

Before you begin your discussion, give the group a chance to share their stories about the impact of sexual violence on themselves and the people they love; most will want to help but just do not know how. Emphasize the positive roles that men can play preventing sexual violence and promoting healthy relationships, such as listening to what the women in their lives have to say about rape and sexual assault, asking for consent, refraining from making derogatory jokes and comments about women, and by speaking up when they see other men acting inappropriately.

Once you begin partnerships with men's groups, it will be easier to strengthen these relationships with the male leaders in your community. Consider hosting a men's group through your organization or a special program for men, inviting them to further discuss their role in creating new, non-violent masculinities and using their influence to increase awareness and raise money for the prevention of rape and sexual assault. Some examples of male-focused programs include:

- **Men Can Stop Rape:** www.mencanstoprape.org or (202) 265-6530
- **Mentors in Violence Prevention:** www.sportinsociety.org/vpd/mvp.php or (617) 373-4025
- **The White Ribbon Campaign:** www.whiteribbon.ca or (800) 328-2228
- **One in Four:** www.oneinfourusa.org or (860) 439-2828
- **Men Stopping Violence:** www.menstoppingviolence.org or (866) 717-9317
- **A Call to Men:** www.acalltomen.com or (917) 922-6738
- **Toolkit for Working with Men and Boys:** <http://toolkit.endabuse.org/Home.html>
- **Coaching Boys into Men (CBIM):** www.coachescorner.org or (415) 252-8900