

Rape Prevention Education: Providing Opportunities to Empower Women and Girls

Technical Assistance Session - Thursday, July 8, 2021

Rutgers University, Center for Women and Work



This initiative is supported by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Rape Prevention and Education grant funds, administered by the NJ Department of Children and Families, Division on Women.

Welcome and Introductions

Rutgers University Center for Women and Work:

- Ludine Daux
- Glenda Gracia-Rivera
- Debra Lancaster



Introductions (continued)

NJ Department of Children and Families, Division on Women:

- Francis Blanco
- Arianna Cohen
- Danielle Scott
- Jordan Steiner

Program Background

New Jersey was selected by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to receive funding under the agency's Rape Prevention Education Program (RPE). The RPE program recipients work with diverse stakeholders, including state sexual violence coalitions, educational institutions, rape crisis centers, community organizations, and other state agency partners to guide the implementation and evaluation of their state sexual violence prevention efforts.



Background (continued)

New Jersey selected three focus areas selected from the CDC recommended strategies included in the STOP Sexual Violence Technical Package:



The NJ Division on Women (DOW) has partnered with the Rutgers Center for Women and Work (CWW) to develop and implement a skills-based learning approach that addresses girls' leadership development needs within each of the three regions identified.

NJ Regions Defined

NORTH

Bergen

Essex

Hudson

Morris

Passaic

Sussex

Warren

CENTRAL

Hunterdon

Mercer

Middlesex

Monmouth

Ocean

Somerset

Union

SOUTH

Atlantic

Burlington

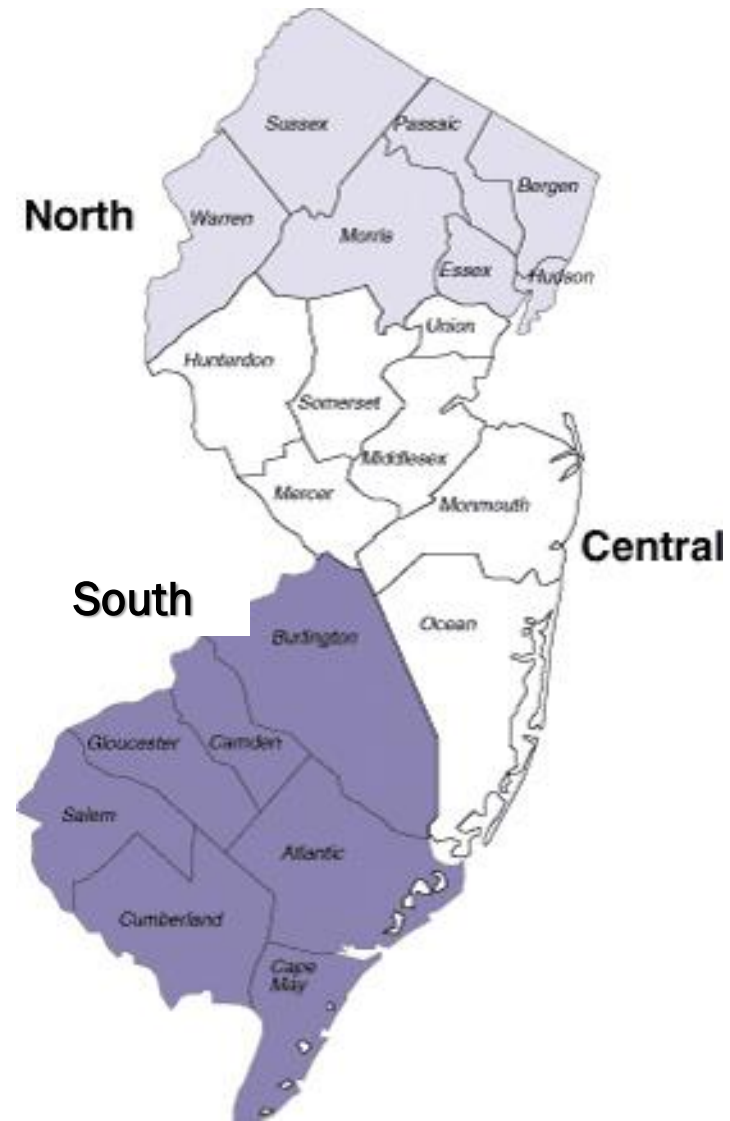
Camden

Cape May

Cumberland

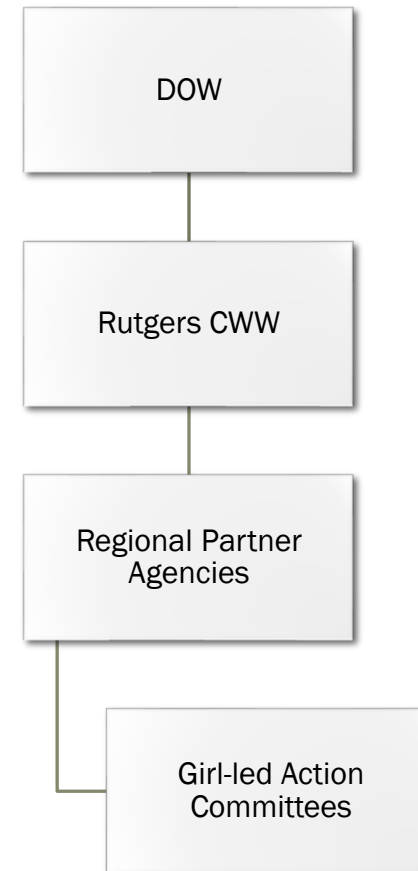
Gloucester

Salem



Program Approach

Rutgers Center for Women and Work (CWW) shall work with regional partner agencies to engage one cohort of girls per region (herein referred to as “girl-led action committees) across the state in a leadership development program. This program will strengthen individual participant capacity to communicate, advocate, and see themselves as a change agent; increase group empowerment and collective efficacy within each cohort (and eventually across cohorts); and work toward achieving positive girl driven changes in the community



Regional Lead Agency Roles and Responsibilities

Identify 1-2 point person(s) to serve as leaders for their region's girl-led action committee.

Assemble a local girl-led action committee of approximately 10-12 girls from the respective region.

Organize/attend girl-led action committee monthly meetings in their region.

Attend training workshops conducted by CWW, together with their girl-led action committee.

Provide ongoing support to girl-led action committee.

Assist girl-led action committee with building their "Call to Action" Project and planning regional leadership summit.

Disperse stipends to girl-led action committee members.

Connect girl-led action committee to local resources, as necessary.

Submit monthly activity reports to CWW.

Call-to-Action Projects (CAP)

Each girl-led action committee will develop a “Call to Action Project” (CAP) to combat the injustices and unfair practices within their schools and/or communities with regards to sexual violence against women and girls. With support/ guidance from the staff of the DOW, CWW, and partner agencies, committees will develop a CAP that is entirely created by them and implemented in their own schools/communities.



CAP Projects (continued)

The CAP will focus on one or more of the three overarching outcomes DOW/CWW has prioritized:

- Increase institutional and community strategies that are intentional and informed and led by girls
- Increase girl's engagement and citizenry in community leadership and advocacy roles
- Increase coordination of services among community agencies
- Decrease harmful norms around masculinity and femininity
- Decrease adherence to traditional gender norms

Projects may consist of things like social media campaigns, poster campaigns, school/community surveys, workshops/guest speakers, podcasts/vlogs, video projects, or other artistic projects (i.e., murals, songs, poetry, etc.), to name a few.

Training and Professional Development



As cohorts are building their “Call to Action Projects” throughout the year, partner agency staff members and program participants will participate in several training workshop modules focused on building their skills and knowledge in relevant areas. Tentative training module topics may include, but are not limited to:

- Exploring Women/Girls’ Leadership Development
- Introduction to Change Agency and Transformational Leadership
- Teamwork and Communication skills
- Advocacy and Community Building
- Planning for Personal and Professional Success
- Media Influence in our Current Society

Leadership Summit

At the culmination of this program (year 3), each committee will also plan/implement a regional leadership summit for a minimum of 100 girls, ages 10-23*, residing within that specific region. The workshops at each conference will be age appropriate for the various age groups of girls, as well as have specific tracks to address marginalized populations (communities of color, LGBTQ populations, disabled, etc.).

The logistics of the annual summits will be planned by the girl-led action committee, with assistance from partner agencies, CWW, and DOW, as needed (including, but not limited to themes, workshops, presenters, locations, etc.).

*Focus will be on ages 10-18



Program Funding/Resources



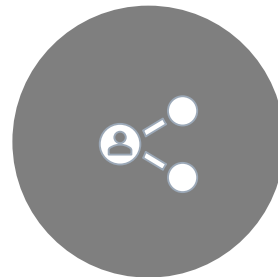
Each region shall have one lead community partner agency. The lead partner agency will be awarded \$15,000/year to support the effort.*



In addition to the \$15,000, lead partner agencies will receive funds to provide stipends and technology for girls who participate.



Lead agencies will receive professional development and training from staff at Rutgers CWW.



The lead agency will be coordinate the cohort's activities in their respective region. They will identify, recruit, and work directly with the girl-led teams in their region to ensure all project goals/deliverables are being met.

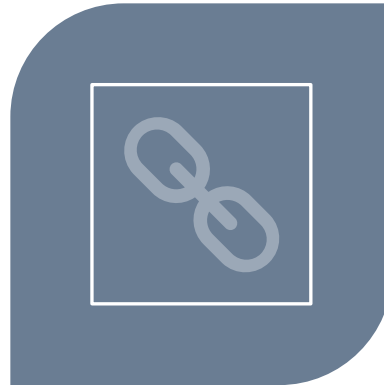
*Additional funding may be available, based on COVID restrictions being lifted and resuming in person programming.

Application Information

WEBSITE: [HTTPS://SITES.RUTGERS.EDU/EMPOWER-WOMEN/](https://sites.rutgers.edu/empower-women/)



APPLICATIONS FOR LEAD AGENCY
PARTNERS ARE DUE BY 5:00 PM ON
JULY 29TH.



APPLICATION LINK:
[HTTPS://RUTGERS.CA1.QUALTRICS.
COM/JFE/FORM/SV_3V242F0YAT0W
TAW](https://rutgers.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/sv_3v242f0yat0wtaw)



FOR QUESTIONS, PLEASE
CONTACT LUDINE DAUX:
LUDINE.DAUX@RUTGERS.EDU



Question and Answer Session