



# Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault 2009 Legislative Action Agenda

## Preventing Sexual Violence

<b>GOAL: Establish primary prevention as a Minnesota priority.</b>
<p><b>Community Prevention Demonstration Grants</b>  <i>Introduce legislation</i> seeking \$250,000 to establish community prevention demonstration grants to develop, test and evaluate local models for coordinating and leveraging community sexual violence prevention initiatives through multi-disciplinary networks.</p>
<p><b>Responsible Sexual Health Education</b>  <i>Support legislation</i> to establish clear standards for comprehensive sexual health education in public schools and state agencies.</p>
<p><b>Licensing and Certification Education</b>  <i>Support MDH budget</i> for sexual violence prevention program, including a study to identify professional licensing and certification standards that should include sexual and family violence education requirements.</p>
<p><b>County Sexual Violence Prevention Initiatives</b>  <i>Support MDH budget</i> for sexual violence prevention program, including efforts to develop resources for counties to conduct sexual violence prevention inventories and develop action plans to support the State's five-year sexual violence prevention plan.</p>
<p><b>Promote Sexual Violence Prevention Awareness</b>  <i>Support MDH budget</i> for sexual violence prevention program by promoting awareness about the <i>Cost of Sexual Violence in MN</i> report and <i>The Promise of Primary Prevention: A Five-year Plan to Prevent Sexual Violence and Exploitation in Minnesota</i>. Promote awareness about the 2009 MN Sexual Violence Prevention Summit.</p>

## Support & Care for Victims & Survivors

<b>GOAL: Assure access to sexual assault victim services.</b>
<p><b>Provide Services to Sexual Violence Victims &amp; Survivors</b>  <i>Introduce legislation</i> to maintain funding for sexual assault victim services grants, and to secure increases needed to sustain volunteer resources and extend services to all MN counties and reservations.</p>

## Create a Criminal Justice System that *Works* & Helps to Stop Sexual Violence

<b>GOAL: Ease access to justice for victims.</b>
<p><b>Objective 1 – Advance criminal justice reforms that have a demonstrated impact on prevention.</b></p> <p><b>Increase penalty for repeat 5<sup>th</sup> degree convictions.</b>  <i>Introduce legislation</i> to enhance penalties for repeat convictions for fifth degree sexual conduct.</p>
<p><b>Objective 2 – Remove barriers to victim's access to justice.</b></p> <p>Omnibus Sexual Assault Victims Reform Bill:  <i>Facilitate introduction of legislative proposals</i> that make minor adjustments to Minnesota's sexual conduct statutes that clarify intent or ease prosecution, and with minimal or no fiscal impact [i.e. restore 36-month presumptive sentencing, clarify statute of limitations for victimized minors, equalize the charge available for an accomplice, update definition of sexual contact].</p>