



# Fostering Collaboration and Building Strong Networks

## Who We Are

The mission of the **Association of VAWA Administrators (AVA)** is to encourage and facilitate mutual support, peer enrichment, awareness and collaboration among states and territories administering **STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)** Formula Grant Programs. Through this mission, AVA fosters an inclusive and welcoming environment of sharing, learning and growth, ensuring that state administrators are connected, equipped, empowered and supported.

## Why Join Us

The power of peer-to-peer support is transformative! It fosters **informal, collaborative learning** in ways that are accessible and engaging. Research shows that peer support boosts individuals' confidence and helps reduce feelings of isolation and stress, particularly in high-demand roles.

Our members consistently share how they benefit from **safe, non-judgmental spaces** where they can openly share challenges, exchange ideas, and celebrate successes together.

**“AVA is the saving grace for STOP VAWA administrators of any level. For me it opened doors to new networks, knowledge, support, and guidance on a peer level. Nothing beats it.”**

– JACKIE HOOVER  
Grant Program Manager, Montana Board of Crime Control

## What We Do

AVA brings together VAWA grant administrators to **collaborate, share knowledge, and exchange best practices**. We provide access to essential resources that support the effective administration of VAWA grant programs. By fostering a culture of learning and inclusion, we ensure that our members have the tools and support they need to thrive in their roles.

**AVA is not a technical assistance provider.** Instead, we are uniquely positioned to provide a platform for peer-to-peer learning and knowledge exchange – centered on shared personal experiences – rather than formalized, expert-led training or highly specific and in-depth guidance or support.

## Organizational Core Values

We are guided by our commitment to the following values:

### Collaboration

Building effective partnerships to strengthen the VAWA grant programs.

### Relationships

Cultivating trust and communication between members, OVW, national TA providers and other key stakeholders.

### Encouragement

Motivating one another through shared experiences and challenges.

### Teamwork

Working together to achieve common goals and solve complex issues.

### Safe Space

Creating an inclusive and welcoming environment where all voices are heard, respected and valued.

### Resourcefulness

Maximizing available resources for the benefit of all.