



Association of VAWA  
Administrators

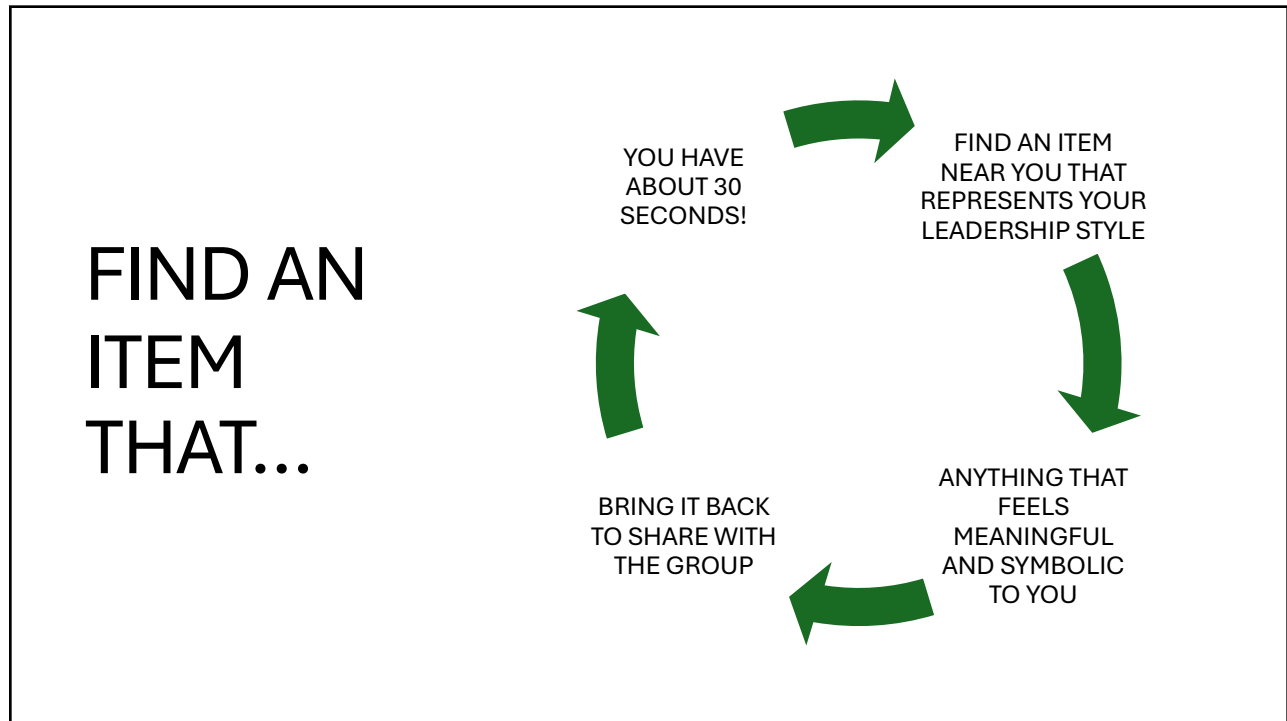
# PEER MENTORING & SUPPORT LAUNCH MEETING

DECEMBER 17TH, 1:00pm – 3:00pm

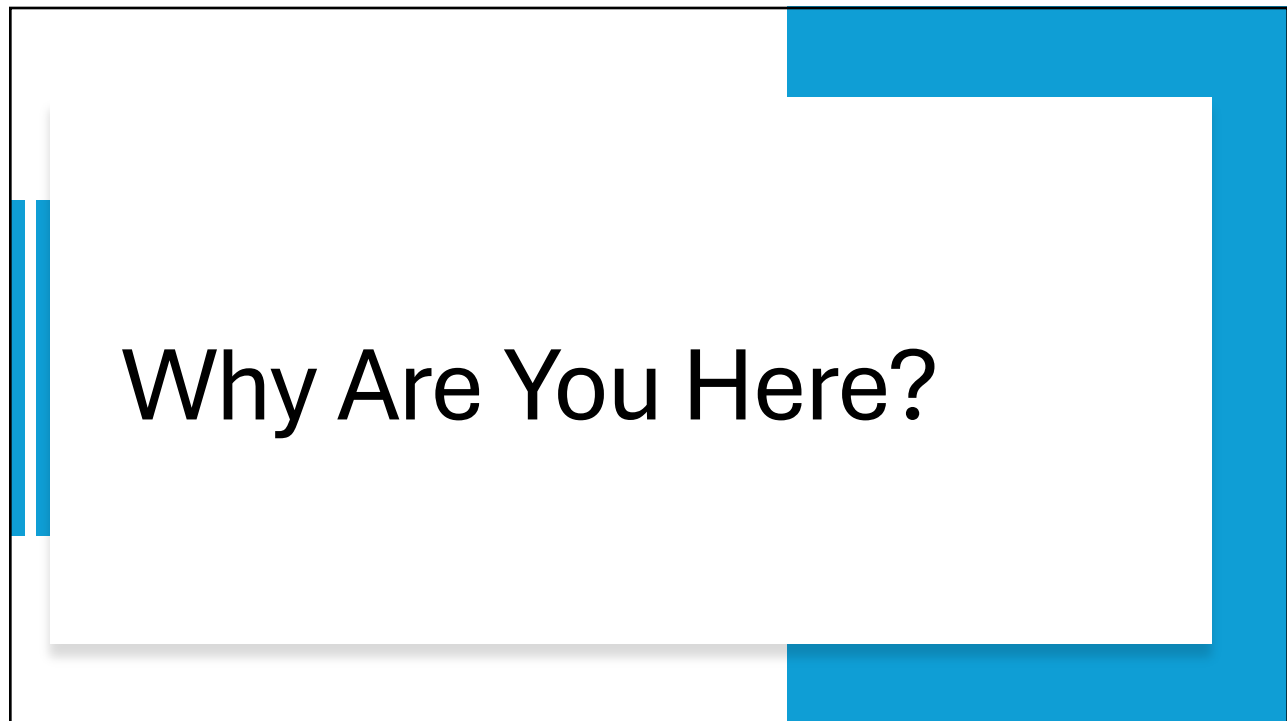
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## Introductions

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Who we are & what we do...

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## MISSION & PRACTICAL VISION

The **mission** of AVA is to encourage and facilitate mutual support, peer enrichment, awareness, and collaboration among states and territories administering STOP Violence Against Women Act Formula Grant Program.

### Practical Vision

- **Peer Enrichment and Support:** Foster a strong, supportive network among VAWA Administrators.
- **Strategic Partnerships with OVW and National TA providers:** Sustain meaningful relationships with OVW, national TA providers and mission-aligned organizations.
- **Sustainable Organizational Expansion and Growth:** Increase organizational resources to ensure long-term sustainability and impact.

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## ORGANIZATIONAL CORE VALUES

- **Collaboration:** Working together to create a vibrant learning community where members share knowledge and experiences, to achieve common goals and foster mutual growth.
- **Relationships:** Building meaningful and supportive connections among members, cultivating a sense of community and belonging.
- **Encouragement:** Uplifting and motivating each other to succeed, creating inspiring environments where everyone feels supported and empowered.
- **Teamwork:** Harnessing the collective power of our members by connecting through shared experiences, fostering collaboration, and supporting one another to achieve common goals.

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- **Resourcefulness:** Leveraging available resources and shared experiences to develop creative solutions to challenges, while continuously seeking opportunities to improve, innovate and ensure that support is accessible to everyone who needs it.
- **Trustworthiness:** Acting with integrity, honesty and transparency, ensuring that our actions align with our purpose, mission and values.
- **Safe Space:** Providing an inclusive, welcoming and respectful environment where members can freely express themselves, share experiences and seek encouragement without fear of judgment.

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## STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

- Strengthen Strategic Partnerships with OVV and TA providers
- Maintain Thriving Relationships with Current Partners
- Enhance Member Engagement
- Expand Peer-to-Peer Support
- Strengthen Organizational Sustainability & Long-Term Stability
- Strengthen Organizational Identity and Visibility



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## PEER MENTORING & SUPPORT PROGRAM

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## Strategic Priority #4: Expand Peer-to-Peer Support

**Objective:** Foster a supportive and collaborative network of peer mentoring to enhance peer enrichment, provide support and facilitate knowledge sharing among administrators.



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## PURPOSE

The initiative is designed to provide intentional opportunities for STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grant administrators across the country to build relationships, navigate challenges, share best practices, and strengthen their leadership through structured peer-to-peer engagement.

**NOTE: Definition of New Administrator:** For the purposes of this program, a new administrator is defined as someone who has been in their role for **two years or less**.

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- BUILD MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS
- NAVIGATE SIMILAR CHALLENGES WITH SUPPORT AND CONFIDENCE
- SHARE BEST PRACTICES
- STRENGTHEN LEADERSHIP SKILLS
- ENGAGE IN STRUCTURED PEER-TO-PEER LEARNING

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## PROGRAM VALUES

**Mutual Support:** Cultivating reciprocal relationships that promote trust, connection, and professional growth

**Encouragement:** Motivating and uplifting one another through shared learning and experience

**Collaborative Learning:** Creating spaces to exchange knowledge, strategies, and tools in order to thrive in grant administrator role

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# TWO TIERS

**BASIC:** OPEN TO  
ALL NEW  
ADMINISTRATORS

**COMPREHENSIVE:**  
AVAILABLE TO PAID  
AVA MEMBERS

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## TIER ONE: BASIC PEER SUPPORT

### AVA Peer-to-Peer Welcome Call (Annual)

- Meet and greet with AVA's Board of Directors

### One-on-One Peer Coaching Session

- Two 60-minute sessions during the administrator's first year in role

### Monthly Connect Calls

- Participate in up to three Connect Calls per year

### Peer Match Directory (Self- Guided)

- Opt-in mentor directory featuring bios, areas of expertise, and topics they're open to discussing
- Members can reach out directly for peer support or informal one-off peer consultations

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## TIER TWO: COMPREHENSIVE PEER SUPPORT

### AVA Peer-to-Peer Welcome Call (Annual)

- Meet and greet with AVA's Board of Directors

### 12-Month Structured Peer Match

- Facilitated matching with new administrators and seasoned peers based on region and/or role
- Orientation and goal setting sessions, plus check-ins at 2, 4, 6, 9 and 12 months
- Goal-setting tools provided by AVA and peer mentor

### Community Discussion Forum on AVA website

- Ongoing peer discussion, resource sharing, and real-time support

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## TIER TWO (CONTD.)

### Exclusive Resource Hub (via the Member Group or Community Forum)

- Access to templates, implementation planning tools, grant monitoring tools, checklists for administrator support, etc.
- Mentorship goal tracker

### Peer Match Directory (Self-Guided)

- Administrators can reach out directly for peer support or one-off consultations, based on topics they're open to discussing.

### Peer-led Quarterly Virtual Gatherings

- Thematic sessions co-led by mentors (or AVA member orgs) on peer-identified topics and trends

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## OPTIONAL FOR BOTH TIERS

- Small peer groups organized around shared identities and experiences (e.g., rural states, BIPOC leaders, etc.)
- Groups meet independently with periodic support and prompt from AVA



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# MENTOR CRITERIA



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## TIER ONE: BASIC PEER SUPPORT

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Mentors do not  
need to be from  
an AVA member  
organization

At least **3 years** in  
**their**  
**administrator**  
**role**

Prior experience  
engaging with the  
Implementation  
Planning process

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TIER TWO:  
COMPREHENSIVE  
PEER SUPPORT

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Must be a **current AVA member organization** in good standing

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At least **3 years as an Administrator**

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Prior experience completing the Implementation Planning process

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Ability to commit to **12 months of structured peer support** and coaching

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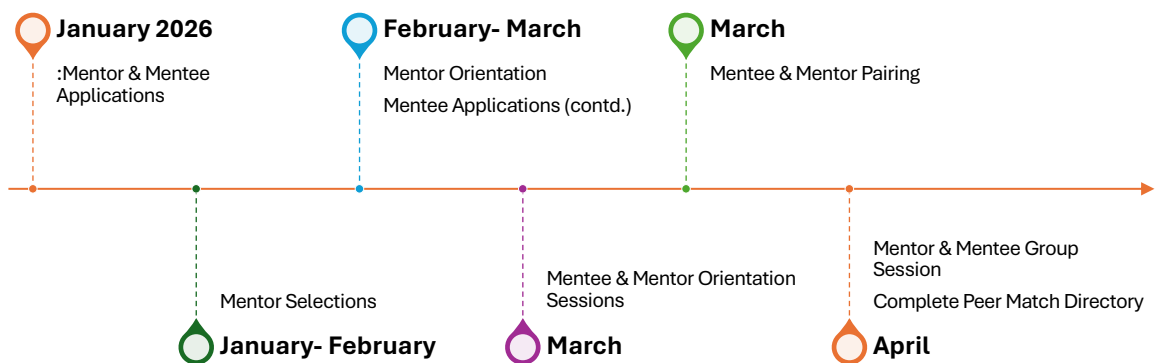


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# Roll-out Plan

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## Current Timeline



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# Next Steps

- Confirm Interest by **December 22, 2025**
- Complete & Submit Brief Application by **January 16, 2026**
- **Reach out to Arlene if you have any additional questions.**

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