



Dear Northwestern community,

It is with great excitement that I write to you to announce the launch of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, which runs from April 1-30, 2021. Many partners from across campus have come together to create programming, healing and discussion spaces, and online tools to help us explore this year's theme, **Envisioning Harm-Free Communities: What would a radically connected future look like?** Along with [CARE](#) (the Center for Awareness, Response, and Education), [AccessibleNU](#), [Multicultural Student Affairs](#), and [the Women's Center](#), the Office of Equity is thrilled to invite you to join us for a month of conversation and community building.

Many in our community have completed online training that aims to provide foundational information regarding sexual misconduct prevention, response, and resources on our campus. We are grateful to each of you who took time to engage with this information and, in particular, to those who provided valuable feedback to our office about what worked and what didn't in these modules. Sexual Assault Awareness Month is an opportunity for us to take the conversation further, and to deepen our individual and collective commitment to supporting survivors, ending sexual violence, and exploring new and innovative ways to create a campus community where survivors are centered, those who engage in harm are held accountable in meaningful ways, and a culture of healthy sexuality is our common goal.

In collaboration with the partners listed above, I invite you to join us for this month's events, a full list of which is available on our [website](#). I am particularly excited to highlight two programs that are open to students, staff, faculty, and community members. First, our inaugural event, **Restorative Justice and Right Relationship**, will take place on Monday, April 5th from 12pm-1:15pm. We are so grateful to [Annie Buth](#), Clinical Assistant Professor of Law, the Center on Negotiation and Mediation at Northwestern's Pritzker School of Law, for providing a framework for addressing sexual misconduct through a restorative lens. Registration is available [here](#). Second, I am pleased to welcome [Lydia X. Z. Brown](#) as our **Keynote Speaker** on Tuesday, April 27th from 4pm-5:15pm. Lydia will speak about their work at the intersections of queerness and disability, with a lens towards how restorative and transformative justice can be used to better support queer and disabled survivors. Registration for the keynote event is available [here](#). Please visit the [SAAM 2021 webpage](#) for more information, including infographics about our work, spotlights of campus and local resources, and the most updated information about our events.

I also want to take this opportunity to recognize [the fantastic team](#), led by Kate Harrington-Rosen, the Office of Equity's Director, Outreach and Education, which collaborated to bring to our community this month's programming and resources. I extend my sincere appreciation and gratitude to Kate, Shá

Norman, Ish Orkar, Mahrukh Qureshi, and our student interns, Mychael Torres and Hope Thompson. Thank you for all you do to make Northwestern safe, welcoming, and inclusive!

We look forward to being in community with you this month!

*The Office of Equity is committed to providing reasonable accommodations for all events and programs we organize. Accommodations, including sign language interpreters, live captioning, and presentation materials in alternate formats are provided upon request. Please see the accommodations statement on each event page for information about who to contact to request accommodations. Every reasonable effort will be made to implement accommodations in an effective and timely manner.*

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*In the spirit of healing, I acknowledge and honor the Potawatomi, Odawa and Ojibwe Tribes, the original people of the land upon which Northwestern University stands, and the Native people who remain on this land today.*