Institutional Infosheet

Take action! It’s time to develop ways to sustain and continue positive change in our institution.

Right now, there are women and men and informal and formal leaders in our community who are part of SASA! Together and who are engaging community members in making and formalizing changes that prevent violence against women.

Ways for Communities to Formalize and Sustain Change

- **Community members**, with the support of community activists, can create a neighborhood watch group and respond to violence safely.
- **Police departments** can train every officer on the protocol for handling cases of violence against women.
- **Families** can make a house rule—no violence by anyone, ever!
- **Health centers** can train their providers on survivor-centered healthcare.
- **Schools** can enforce a zero-tolerance culture for corporal punishment and sexual harassment.
- **Counselors** can improve their system for making and tracking referrals—and train all of their colleagues on it.
- **Religious institutions** can discuss violence and consent in their premarital classes with couples.
- **Local governments** can train local leaders on the law and using referral systems properly.
- **Media houses** can develop and follow ethics and safety guidelines for reporting on violence against women.

And we can all better listen to, believe and support the women in our lives.
SASA! Together in Our Institution
The Action Phase

As part of SASA! Together, our institution will use our role in the community to demonstrate a commitment to change that extends well beyond the scope of SASA! Together.

The Action phase of SASA! Together focuses on power to.

As an institution, how can we use our power to inspire ongoing change in the community? How do we become an institution that follows through on new ideas and holds a bold vision of the future?

As an institution, we can make a 3-year plan for sustaining and building upon our accomplishments in SASA! Together.

It takes ongoing courage, perseverance and hard work to create lasting institutional change.

What does it mean to sustain institutional change?

Sustaining change means enabling the positive changes you have accomplished to both continue and evolve. As soon as any change becomes disconnected from a sense of relevance or responsibility, old habits can easily return.

When we sustain these successes, the spirit of change continues to guide actions and decision-making and eventually becomes embedded in the norms and identity of our institution. A variety of initiatives can help ingrain our positive change into our institution’s work and identity going forward.

There are three categories of activities that help sustain institutional change:

1. **Maintaining**: Creating mandatory systems and structures such as for training, monitoring and reporting.

2. **Sharing**: Making public announcements and sharing knowledge/resources with other institutions.

3. **Celebrating**: Recognizing accomplishments, hosting events and handing out rewards.

Get involved today!

Contact: .................................................................