

# Broadening Sustained Community-led Activism For VAW Prevention

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ALIGHT

# Why Community- led Activism for GBV Prevention & Response

- ▶ For change to be sustainable it needs to be truly owned by the community.
- ▶ Moving beyond information giving and gets personal, encouraging critical self-reflection with the aim of inspiring women and men to feel compelled to action, in their own lives and in the community.
- ▶ Equal numbers of male and female community activists, who represent a diverse spectrum of community members. Similarly, community activists are also selected within the professional groups (e.g., religious leaders, health care providers, police, etc) an organization is working with.

## Local Activism

Who leads it?

Who do they reach?

What does it Involve?

Why is it Important?

- ▶ Community activists—a diverse group of women and men who live and work in the community and represent different walks of life, ethnicities, religions, abilities and more
- ▶ The individual and interpersonal circle of influence
- ▶ Community members spontaneously encounter and participate in *SASA!* *Together* activities in their day-to-day lives, including dramas, poster discussions, games and more.
- ▶ Local Activism delves the most deeply into the nuances of what it means to balance power in relationships.

## How it works

Community activists live within approximately 30 minutes walking distance of the neighbors they engage. Each SASA! community has several community activists.

NGO staff are present in the SASA! communities regularly and provide mentoring to all community activists.

Activists meet community members or colleagues where they are (e.g. in the market place, at home, the workplace, mechanics shop, near the water pump, etc.) for informal discussion, rather than in trainings or formal public events.

## How it works cont..

Activities spark repeated reflection and dialogue in their communities on the issues of power and VAW.

Community activists use a referral list with services and support mechanisms for survivors of violence.

NGO staff build and maintain positive relationships with the SASA! community, and there are regular opportunities for community members to share feedback with the organization.

A variety of activities within each strategy reach out to diverse individuals and groups within the circles of influence.

Activities are frequent with several conducted each week in a neighborhood / community.

You too can  
work to  
broaden  
community  
Activism.

Thank You