



Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence  
**ACTIONALLIANCE**

Virginia's leading voice  
on sexual and domestic violence  
for over 30 years.

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Statewide Sexual and Domestic Violence Coalition Recognizes Leaders and Innovators in the Sexual and Domestic Violence Field**

Richmond, VA – The Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance (Action Alliance), Virginia's leading voice on sexual and intimate partner violence, announces eight recipients of the 2015 Catalyst Awards.

The Catalyst Awards encompass superior work across eight different categories, including both sexual and domestic violence work, and apply to program staff, community leaders, volunteers, and allied professionals.

The group of honorees has been selected for their innovative and outstanding contributions to the field. "We are absolutely delighted to honor these individuals for their exceptional and inspiring work on behalf of survivors of sexual and intimate partner violence and for their extraordinary contributions to the field of sexual and domestic violence," Action Alliance Executive Director Kristi VanAudenhoove said.

Awardees will be honored June 16 at the Action Alliance Biennial Retreat and Conference, to be held at Roanoke College in Salem, Virginia. A full list of award winners and their organizations follows:

- Rita Biggs, Pioneer Award (Phoenix Project)
- Karen Brown, Purple Ribbon Award (Services to Abused Families, SAFE)
- Colonel William Grace, Uncommon Ally Award (VMI)
- Jeannie Kuley, Nexus Award (Fairfax County Office for Women and Domestic & Sexual Violence Services)
- Linda Johnson, Hope Award (The Women's Resource Center of the New River Valley)
- Joni Perry, Teal Ribbon Award (Family Crisis Support Services)
- Pastor Lyndon Sayers, Pathfinder Award (Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church)
- Briana Valentino, Blue Ribbon Award (Advocacy Center at Greater Richmond SCAN)

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#### **About the Virginia Sexual & Domestic Violence Action Alliance**

The Action Alliance has been Virginia's leading voice on sexual and domestic violence for 30 years and enhances response and prevention efforts through training, public policy advocacy, public awareness programs, and technical assistance to professionals. To learn more about the Action Alliance, visit [www.vsdvalliance.org](http://www.vsdvalliance.org).

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