



NAMEN Updates

Organizational Updates

In fall of 2019, NAMEN formally became a 501c3 nonprofit status (in the US). This positions us to ease the process to receive tax deductible donations, as well as to receive grants and federal contracts.

This change has also facilitated a shift in our organizational structure. To date, NAMEN has been operating with a Steering Committee. We are now operating with a formal board of directors.

These changes don't mean much in terms of the processes we use to make decisions (we still operate by consensus) nor our programming or activities. They primarily mean that NAMEN is now positioned to be more active in our efforts to raise funds to expand our work.

Policy Advocacy Efforts

The Policy Advocacy Committee continues to add NAMEN's voice in advocating for core legislative and policy advances in the US (both foreign and domestic), and is also in the process of defining a strategy for growing our capacity and impact. We are currently developing our capacity to engage in policy advocacy in Canada.

Some key policy foci that NAMEN is currently monitoring and taking action on include:

- The *Violence Against Women Act* -- perhaps **the** most overarching US domestic legislation addressing and combating gender based violence. It was allowed to expire in 2018. A new version has passed the house but is stalled in the Senate.
- *Family Violence Prevention and Services Act* -- a major source of funding for domestic violence coalitions and local programs. It has passed the house and is expected to pass the Senate.
- Repeal the *Global Gag Rule* -- This effort has failed in the current Session. The Global Gag Rule, which the Trump significantly expanded in 2017, prohibits any international effort that receive US funding to mention, offer or refer for reproductive health services.
- Title IX updated regulations -- The Department of Education is under a long-term effort to re-write the administrative rules related to how college campuses respond to, address and prevent gender-based violence. There is broad consensus that the changes currently being developed will be a major dis-service to victims and significantly hinder prevention efforts. There is no known date for the formal release of the new regulations.

NAMEN has taken public positions, provided inputs on advocacy statements, and has communicated with its membership in order to mobilize them to take action. The Policy Advocacy Committee is developing its capacity to mobilize its membership and take more meaningful action.

CSW 2020

NAMEN will be joining the Global MenEngage Alliance Advocacy Working Group to participate in the UN Commission on the Status of Women meetings and side events in New York, March 9 - 13. As many of you may realize, 2020 is the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Conference and the [Beijing Call to Action](#). UN Women has identified [6 themes](#) for ongoing organizing and advocacy towards women's human rights and gender equality.

NAMEN, as a part of the Global MenEngage Advocacy Working Group, will be involved both in side events organized by other NGO's, as well as in the open discussions of the Commission itself. NAMEN is currently planning to meet with both the US and Canadian permanent mission staff of the UN during our week at CSW.

NOTE: NAMEN will provide a special issue of this Update immediately after CSW64!

Resource Hub

Based on feedback NAMEN received from members and supporters, NAMEN is launching a "Resource Hub" for our members. This resource hub (which you can [learn more about here](#)) provides access to an array of practice-based resources on engaging and mobilizing men. Members not only have access to these resources, but will also be able to provide input and feedback on the resources offered.

If you are interested in accessing the resource hub, and the other services provided by NAMEN, please

consider [joining here](#).

In Appreciation

We want to acknowledge and appreciate two NAMEN Steering Committees who have recently resigned.

NAMEN Co-Founder and long-term Steering Committee member Rob Okun resigned in January. Rob, who is also editor of *VoiceMale Magazine* has been a core member of our leadership and has played a significant role in our early development.

Jeremy Nevilles also submitted his resignation in January. Jeremy, who's actively involved in efforts to engage and mobilize men, and develop efforts to respond to and address gender-based violence in Indian Country, has been a powerful advocate for NAMEN to expand our fundraising and programmatic efforts.

Both Rob and Jeremy provided invaluable support and resources to NAMEN during their tenures with the NAMEN Steering Committee. Their commitment, knowledge and passion for this work are immeasurable. We appreciate both Rob and Jeremy for their support for and leadership in NAMEN, and look forward to staying connected with them.

Save the Date

The MenEngage Alliance 3rd Global Symposium

will take place from 9 to 12 November 2020 in Kigali, Rwanda

New Resources

[Do's and Don'ts for Engaging Men and Boys](#) (USAID, IGWG 2018)

This 2-page flyer provides a list of emerging best practices for effectively engaging men and boys in promoting health and gender equity. This tool links the “engagement” of men and boys as service recipients, friends and loved ones of women and girls, and as change agents.

[Calling Men and Boys In: What we Heard from the Roundtables on Engaging Men and Boys for Gender Equality](#) (Women and Gender Equality Canada, 2019)

Throughout 2018, with support from the Canadian Government, a series of roundtables were held throughout Canada to explore what working to effectively engage men and boys in gender equality. This 26-page report reflects the main lessons learned from these roundtables.

April in Sexual Assault Awareness & Prevention Month (in the US)

The National Sexual Violence Resource Center has an array of resources to help promote Sexual Assault Awareness in your community. [Go here](#) to learn more and access these resources.



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