



Instructions and Hints for Sharing your Experience

1. Experiences should have taken place in a rural area and when you were an adult.
2. You should wait to share your experience until after your case has been closed.
3. Focus on sharing an experience related to a feeling believed or supported by law enforcement and/or victim advocacy.
4. Please include rich descriptions of your experience so that a reader can visualize what happened and why. Remember, phrases like “this was awesome” or “this was a good experience” don’t *describe* what occurred.
5. You should not identify involved individuals by name in the story. Use roles to designate players (i.e. law enforcement officer, advocate, etc.). If you do include identifying information, SVJI will redact that information from the story.
6. Experiences should be truthful. They should be based on first-hand experience – not based on what you heard second-hand from someone else.
7. Experiences can be shared during an individual interview (email ifoster@mncasa.org to set up a time), using this [form](#), or submitting it here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/believed>. There are no length requirements.
8. A trained and seasoned advocate will conduct the interviews. Every effort will be made to ensure confidentiality, as well as language and cultural accessibility. If you have requests, questions, or concerns, please call or email Jessica Jerney (jjerney@mncasa.org).

Next Steps

1. After submitting, your experiences will be reviewed by a committee for common themes and illustrative examples relating to the areas of focus.
2. If your experience includes particularly illustrative example or if our reviewers wish to learn more about your experience, you may be contacted to provide additional detail regarding your experience. While you may decide to share your name and contact info is collected below in order to allow for follow-up, sharing this information is voluntary and your responses will remain confidential. SVJI will contact you for permission prior to quoting your story.
3. SVJI will combine your responses with others, and share themes and permitted quotes in an overall report to OVW. We will also include the information in trainings for people who work with victims, to help them do their work better.

Questions? Concerns? Please contact:

Jessica Jerney

Evaluation and Research Coordinator

SVJI@MNCASA

jjerney@mncasa.org

651.288.7458

For additional information on this project,
please visit www.mncasa.org/feeling-believed