



The Gail Burns-Smith “Dare to Dream” Fund

The Gail Burns-Smith “Dare to Dream” Fund was established in 2004 upon the retirement of the former Executive Director of CONNSACS, Gail Burns-Smith, who dedicated twenty-two years to ending and preventing sexual violence in the state of Connecticut. The Fund is composed of voluntary contributions received from supporters and donors who wish to honor Gail’s dedication to this cause. A scholarship or stipend is granted annually to an individual whose work or study in the field of sexual violence most exemplifies Gail’s commitment to anti-sexual assault awareness, policy, prevention and advocacy on behalf of victims of sexual violence.

Connecticut Alliance to End Sexual Violence

Connecticut Alliance to End Sexual Violence (formerly CONNSACS) is a statewide association of sexual assault crisis programs working to end sexual violence through victim assistance, community education, and public policy advocacy. The Alliance actively seeks and administers funds to develop and support its member organizations; participates in collaborative efforts to promote social change with national, state and local organizations; provides a forum for the exchange of skills and information regarding the response to and prevention of sexual assault; and serves as a mechanism for the development and maintenance of appropriate standards of services for sexual assault crisis centers.

Award Information

An award of \$1,000 will be presented each year.

However, this amount along with the number of awardees may change at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

The requirements of this award may be amended by The Alliance prior to the annual announcement of its available applications.

Required Materials

Applicants must submit the official application form, an essay responding to the questions listed on the application, and two character references submitted as letters of recommendation on behalf of the applicant.

Important Dates

Applications will be accepted through March 31, 2018. The awardee(s) will be contacted in mid-April of 2018.

Conditions of the Award

The recipient of the award must provide a report to Connecticut Alliance to End Sexual Violence one year after receiving the award, indicating how the funding was used and its impact.

This award is open to anyone, regardless of race, color, religious creed, age, marital status, familial status, national origin, ancestry, sex, mental disability, learning disability, sexual orientation, and physical disability. People from historically marginalized communities are encouraged to apply.

Eligibility Criteria

The applicant must be a resident of Connecticut or attend a school that is based in Connecticut.

The applicant must show paid or volunteer work experience in the field of women’s issues or sexual violence and be actively involved in sexual assault awareness activities.

Applicants may apply annually for this award.

Selection Criteria

The applicant must demonstrate leadership and display commitment in the fields of women’s issues or sexual violence prevention and/or advocacy. This work can be on behalf of individual victims or via public policy advocacy.



Instructions for Applying

Complete this application form. Attach your essay answering the application essay prompts. Attach two character references in the form of letters of recommendation. Email your application to gbsfund@endsexualviolencect.org with the subject line "GBS Fund Application." You can also mail your application materials to:

GBS Fund Application
Connecticut Alliance to End Sexual Violence
96 Pitkin Street, East Hartford, CT 06108

Your application must be received by the end of the day on March 31, 2018. Incomplete applications will not be accepted. For more information, please contact Laura Cordes at laura@endsexualviolencect.org.

Application for the Gail Burns-Smith "Dare to Dream" Fund

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Primary Phone: _____ Secondary Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Education

Are you currently attending school or have you graduated? Attending Graduated

Name of School: _____

Degree Earned /Degree Being Pursued: _____

Field of Study: _____

Date of Graduation/Expected Date of Graduation: _____

96 Pitkin Street
East Hartford, CT 06108
860-282-9881

EndSexualViolenceCT.org

**Statewide 24 Hour
Toll Free Hotline:**
1-888-999-5545 ENGLISH
1-888-568-8332 ESPAÑOL



Employment or Internship Experience

Current Employer: _____

Name of Organization: _____

Position Held: _____

Length of Time in Position: _____

Job Responsibilities: _____

Previous Employer: _____

Name of Organization: _____

Position Held: _____

Length of Time in Position: _____

Job Responsibilities: _____

Previous Employer: _____

Name of Organization: _____

Position Held: _____

Length of Time in Position: _____

Job Responsibilities: _____



Volunteer Experience

Please include volunteer experience related to sexual violence and/or women's issues only.

Organization: _____

Dates of Service: _____

Length of Service: _____

Responsibilities: _____

Organization: _____

Dates of Service: _____

Length of Service: _____

Responsibilities: _____

Essay Prompts

Please attach an essay that answers the following questions:

- What is your experience working in the field of sexual violence prevention and/or your experience advocating on behalf of sexual assault victims?
- How has this work impacted your life and your interest in this field?
- What are your plans for future work in this field?
- If awarded, how would you use this scholarship/stipend?