OVERVIEW OF PROJECT
With seed grant funding from the Safe States Alliance, SOPHE developed a program to reach Black women not enrolled in a college or university in an effort to increase equitable access to sexual violence prevention education. Utilizing the Truth in Racial Healing Framework, the program included in-person educational events and an online course that provided on-demand information on healthy relationships, boundary setting, and consent. Overall, 48 young women of color attended the in-person and virtual trainings. Participants comments included: “I liked how we could discuss these topics with each other and mutually improve and enrich our understanding of this,” and “[I liked] connecting content with real-life scenarios.” The next phase of SOPHE’s program was to adapt the curriculum for LGBTQ+ individuals. They employed the same culturally responsive communication strategies to ensure the training was well-received by the community.

KEY TAKEAWAYS
Equitable communication requires improving the community’s access to information
SOPHE provided the same information at their in-person event and the virtual event to remove barriers to access for those unable to attend in person. The curriculum is also available on SOPHE’s training website for continued access for anyone who is interested.

Training content should be thoughtfully tailored to the community context
The curriculum developer ensured that the training was rooted in a framework that promotes sustainable change and prioritizes racial healing.

Community members should vet communication materials
SOPHE sought input from their community partners, such as My Sister's Keeper, to review fliers before promoting in-person and virtual events.

IN THEIR WORDS
Check out SOPHE’s interview to learn more about their project!

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