



## NEWS RELEASE

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### VOICE Amplifies the Voices of Survivors During Sexual Assault Awareness Month

*“Out of the Darkness” offers survivors the opportunity to share their stories  
safely*

Throughout the month of April, VOICE will hand their platforms over to incredible women who are turning their horrific experiences with sexual violence into fuel for their advocacy. In an effort to draw attention to the issue of sexual violence, survivors will share their stories and thoughts throughout the month of April. *Out of the Darkness* amplifies the voices of survivors and highlights VOICE’s UNICEF supported “We Must Do Better” report. The 40-page report is a startling assessment of humanitarian aid for women-and-girl-led organizations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

“As we roll out our *We Must do Better* research in the United states, we are seeing that the trends we’ve observed on a global scale are happening in America, with increases in all forms of sexual violence, domestic and intimate partner violence during the COVID-19 pandemic,” said Mendy Marsh, co-founder of VOICE. “By amplifying the voices of survivors, we make certain they are heard and their needs are met.”

Survivors of sexual assault play a key role in the momentum required to create services and support mechanisms that serve their needs.

“As a sexual assault survivor myself, I’m proud to work with an organization that recognizes that through my experience, I am a part of the solution,” said Natasha Simone Alexenko, United States Program Advisor for VOICE. “I’m humbled to share this platform with the voices of survivors throughout the

country who are bravely sharing their stories, and I stand by those who choose not to.”

VOICE is committed to ensuring that women and girls continue to have resources at their disposal and that the organizations that support them have the means to continue to serve them.

## **ABOUT VOICE**

VOICE is accelerating a global revolution against systemic violence powered by women and girls and the organizations they lead. We are a cutting-edge feminist organization that works with women and girl-led organizations in crisis and emergency settings all over the world. We are a team of skilled humanitarians with extensive experience working on violence against women and girls, and we believe that women and girls themselves are the solution to eradicating the violence they face. VOICE amplifies the expertise and experiences of our extensive network of women activists and organizations, and we support their impact with the resources they say they need. To learn more about VOICE, visit [www.voiceamplified.org](http://www.voiceamplified.org).

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