Office of Survivor Advocacy & Community Education (SACE)

**Mission**
The Office of Survivor Advocacy and Community Education is dedicated to empower survivors, and those connected to survivors, of sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and other forms of interpersonal violence through survivor-centered, trauma-informed advocacy services, healing workshops and retreats, trainings, and education programs within the Wesleyan University community.

**Vision**
This mission is in service of a larger vision to empower survivors of sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and other forms of interpersonal violence and educate the greater Wesleyan University community about these acts of violence and responding to them in a trauma-informed way.

**Services & Staff Roles**

**Director, Johanna DeBari**

- **Office Location:** Second Floor, DHC, Room 218
- **Campus Phone Number:** (860) 685-3214
- **Campus E-mail:** jdebari@wesleyan.edu
- **Office Hours:** 9 am – 5 pm by appointment, or scheduled as needed.

**Advocacy Services**
- Confidential resource to students, faculty, and staff whom have experienced sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, or other forms of interpersonal violence.
- Confidential support resource to students, faculty and staff whom work with or know of folks whom have experienced sexual assault, stalking, dating violence, or other forms of interpersonal violence in their community
- Medical accompaniment to the Davison Health Center or Middlesex Hospital during office hours
- Support services and accompaniment to campus meetings with Office of Equity & Inclusion, WesWell, Public Safety, etc.
- Accompaniment to reporting at Middletown Police and/or Public Safety
- Referrals to CAPS, WesWell, Davison Health Center, Office of Religious and Spiritual Life, Office of Equity and Inclusion, or other community agencies as needed for individuals.
- Collaborate with community organizations as necessary in advocating for trauma-sensitive policies and services throughout the university.
- **Additional advocacy services as needed and defined by students.**

**Education Services**
- Coordinate, creates, and collaborate on training and education programs for interpersonal violence prevention & healing for student groups, faculty, staff, and administrators alongside community stakeholders. Topics vary based on community needs and relevancy.
- Facilitate support groups and retreats.
SART Intern, Rachele Merliss ’19

Office Hours: Tuesdays 1-2 pm and Thursdays 1:30-4:30 pm (DHC Solarium)
Campus E-mail: rmerliss@wesleyan.edu

- Serves as a Responsible Reporter for incidents of sexual violence, holding weekly office hours during which students can learn about options for reporting and resources for support
- Plan and execute campus events for sexual violence prevention and education including new student orientation programming
- Serve as a member of the Title IX Education Committee and the Title IX Student Advisory Committee, serving as a line of communication between administration and students.