

EOS INTERNATIONAL

Case Study



National Sexual Violence Resource Center

The National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC) opened in July 2000 as a national information and resource hub relating to all aspects of sexual violence. A project of the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape (PCAR), the oldest and one of the largest state sexual assault coalitions, NSVRC is funded through a grant from the Centers For Disease Control and Prevention's Division of Violence Prevention.

NSVRC houses a comprehensive database containing the library collections of both NSVRC and PCAR, and acts as a distribution center for information, statistics, and resources related to sexual violence. It serves as a resource for state, territory, and tribal anti-sexual assault coalitions, rape crisis centers, allied organizations, community projects, policy-makers, government entities, media, educators, health care providers and others working to address and eliminate sexual assault.

The library's primary users are local crisis centers, public health departments, tribal and state sexual assault coalitions, in addition to various legislative bodies, news outlets, and entertainment media. It's not the least bit unusual for information specialists at NSVRC to be called upon to check facts by writers and fact-checkers for entertainment shows such as 'Law and Order' or LifeTime Television.

Flexibility of EOS.Web Cataloging makes it easier to direct users to information

The NSVRC collection contains a lot of traditional materials such as books and videos in addition to curriculums, conference proceedings, brochures, fact sheets, and information packets on sexual assault awareness from various states.

"One huge unexpected benefit of EOS.Web is that now we can work with staff modules and catalog from anywhere.... I would absolutely recommend EOS to other special libraries!"

*Beth Transue
Librarian,
NSVRC*

The Problem:

NSVRC wanted to improve public access to their collection, since providing public education is a main mission of their grant. They also wanted to simplify their internal IT operations, and to avoid continuous hardware and software upgrades.

The Solution:

The solution NSVRC chose to implement was EOS.Web™, a state-of-the-art customizable, integrated library automation system and the innovative EOS e-Library Service®, a trusted ASP-hosted Web services option available from EOS International. Due to EOS.Web OPAC, the collection is available for public searching at <http://www.nsvrc.org>. Choosing to implement their solution using the ASP-hosted option has freed the center from having to provide and maintain server hardware, server administration, upgrades and other technical tasks.

"Now we can spend more time on our call center operations instead of IT issues and continue to look for ways to increase our collection exposure with other public health department collections."

*Beth Transue
Librarian, NSVRC*

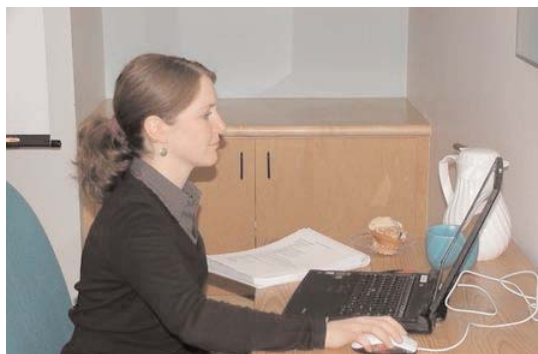
“Flexibility of the cataloging system lets us catalog a wide variety of media and to provide the public Web access to those materials,” states Beth Transue, Librarian for NSVRC. “EOS.Web Cataloging is very quick and it’s easier to direct users to information. It really helps us do our jobs better on a day-to-day basis.”

“It’s so much easier for users to search now. Many more people are searching and utilizing materials that had been used infrequently before,” states Donna Greco, the Education and Resources Coordinator for PCAR.

“Flexibility of the cataloging system lets us catalog a wide variety of media and to provide the public web access to those materials,” states Beth Transue, Librarian for the NSVRC. “EOS.Web Cataloging is very quick and it’s easier to direct users to information. It really helps us do our jobs better on a day-to-day basis.”

Transue manipulates media types to catalog a lot of non-traditional materials such as fact sheets and information packets. Some of the unusual items cataloged include promotional materials to help people with outreach efforts such as t-shirts and bumper stickers.

“We hadn’t expected that we would be able to hire part-time librarians to handle cataloging backlogged materials who would work from home,” says Transue. “One huge unexpected benefit of EOS.Web is that now we can work with staff modules and catalogue from anywhere.”



PCAR Education and Resources Coordinator Donna Greco now can catalog from home with EOS.Web

Multi-lingual Special Titles Lists improves access to information

“We catalog some prevention material title collections in other languages, such as Spanish, Chinese, Vietnamese, and Russian for the international community,” says Greco. “I particularly like the ability to create special title lists for prevention materials written in Spanish.” This enables the library to provide a series search on a title such as ‘child sexual abuse prevention.’

Comprehensive Management Reporting

Over 200 comprehensive reports provide librarians and their management with in-depth reports that enable to see the “big picture” to simplify and streamline internal operations.

“EOS.Web Circulation has simplified circulation procedures,” states Greco. “The circulation reports help us provide the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare their quarterly reports regarding media, type, and usage.”

EOS.Web OPAC and Z39.50 connectivity raises collection awareness

EOS.Web OPAC is a simple yet sophisticated searching tool that provides access to your library’s Online Public Access Catalog via the World Wide Web. With Z39.50 searching, you can search other Z39.50 sites across town or on the other side of the world.

This enables libraries to become hubs for multiple collections of information. This can include your own collection, a branch library’s collection, or other external information collections and sources.

The NSVRC staff collects and disseminates a wide range of resources and EOS automation has helped to make the collection more accessible to users by lending more credibility to the collection.

“We’ve received calls from other public health libraries asking how to set-up a special collection like ours,” states Transue. “It was great to get to work with Bahrain and provide them with the information they needed to help them set-up a rape crisis center.”

About Beth Transue: *She is a member of the Central Pennsylvania Health Sciences Library Association, ALA, and the Central Pennsylvania Chapter of SLA. She received her undergraduate degree in Biology from Messiah College, and earned a perfect 4.0 at Drexel University where she obtained her MLS.*

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