

Prevention & Practical Suggestions for Sexual Assault Advocates & Allies

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Agenda:

- 1 Background of MNCASA
- 2 Revisiting Prevention
- 3 Medical Forensic Rights
- 4 Community Connections
- 5 Conclusion & Questions

Background of MNCASA

About MNCASA

MNCASA is a statewide coalition driving transformative culture change to address sexual violence through advocacy, prevention, racial justice, and systems change.

We envision a world free of sexual violence in which all human beings are treated with dignity and respect and communities are transformed through safety, healing, and partnerships.



Our Work



ADVOCACY

We provide leadership and resources to advocates in providing services to all victims/survivors in their communities.



PREVENTION

We work to prevent harm and address root causes of sexual violence using an anti-oppression lens.



RACIAL JUSTICE

We work toward a Minnesota where BIPOC survivors have access to safety, affirmation, and systems they can trust and use.



SYSTEM CHANGE & POLICY

We invest in community-focused work alongside our efforts to transform systems, prioritizing underserved communities.

What is the role of MNCASA?



- Represent and support rape crisis centers across the state
- Prioritize racial and social justice
- Advocate for public policy efforts
- Lead public awareness efforts
- Center victims and survivors of sexual violence

Training & Technical Assistance



TTA describes the process of providing support to an organization/individual in order to build capacity, knowledge, expertise and more.

- TTA can include:
 - One-on-one consultation
 - Webinars and on-site trainings
 - Program development
 - Building resources
 - Networking
 - Brainstorming and validation



Revisiting Prevention

Prevention

Systems Advocacy

Direct Service
Advocacy

Victim/
Survivor

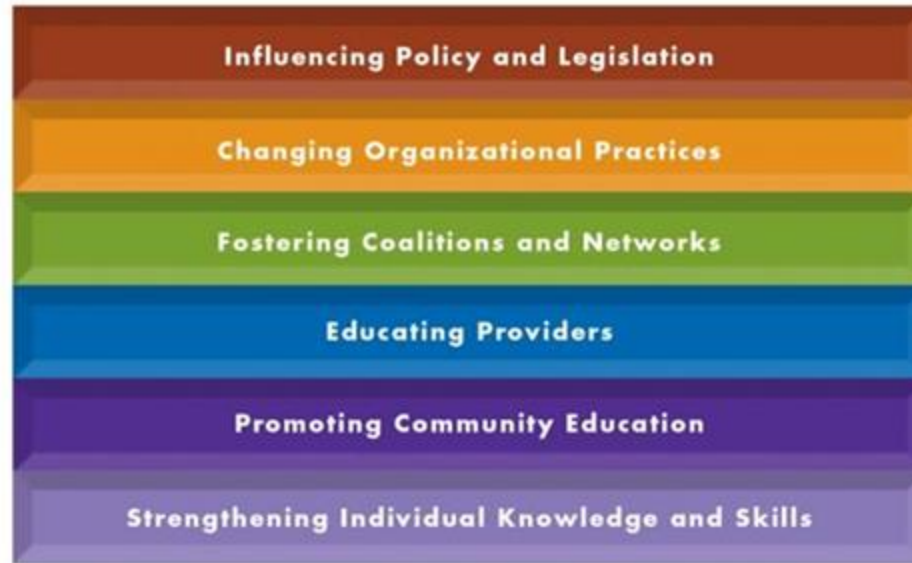
Primary Prevention

Preventing violence before it ever has the chance to occur

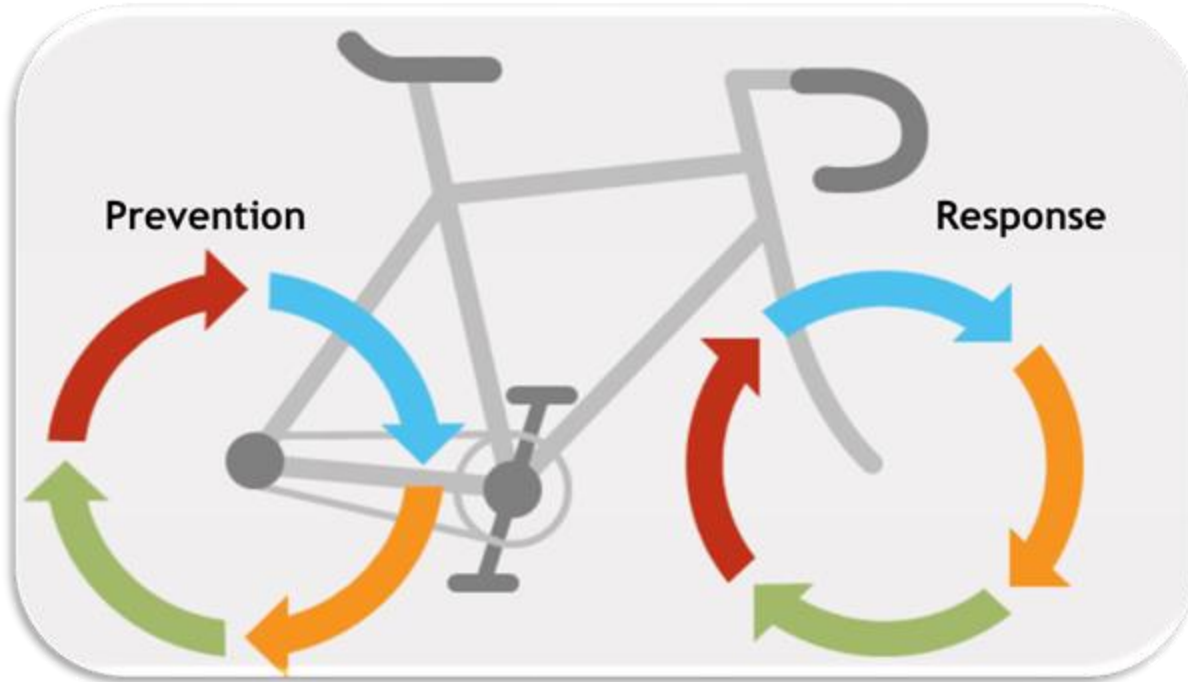
Primary Prevention

Preventing violence before it ever has the chance to

THE SPECTRUM OF PREVENTION



Prevention & Response in Tandem



SEXUAL ASSAULT MEDICAL FORENSIC 101



**A victim is sexually
assaulted and
discloses to you or
university staff ...**

Then what?



Reasons to Refer Victim/Survivors to the Hospital

- Immediate screening for acute injury and treatment
- Assuage concerns regarding pregnancy or STIs
- Connection with trauma-informed care through SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners) and advocate
- Recommendations for follow-up health care
- Provide resources for counseling, support groups, assistance with crime victim reparations and/or protective orders

More Reasons to Refer Victim/Survivors to the Hospital

- Exam is available at no cost to the victim/survivor
- Confidential services available → parents will not find out
- No requirement to report assault to law enforcement to receive care
- Will be met with validation and support which are vital to the victim/survivor's ongoing healing
- **Most SANE Programs in the state of Minnesota will conduct a medical forensic exam for an assault that occurred within the prior TEN DAYS**



Victim's Rights During the Medical Forensic Exam

- The right to decline or accept any part of the exam at any time.
- The right to have the doctor or nurse answer questions during the exam.
- The right to have an advocate stay during the exam, if available.



dps.mn.gov/divisions/ojp/help-for-crime-victims/Pages/default.aspx

The Medical Forensic Exam



- Head to toe examination
- History of the assault
- Documentation of any injuries
- Assessment for further needed medical interventions
- Prophylaxis for STIs including gonorrhea, chlamydia, HIV, and emergency contraception
- Photography
- Collection of forensic evidence through blood, urine, and sexual assault kit (SAK)
- Recommendations for follow-up care
- Connection with local advocacy organization

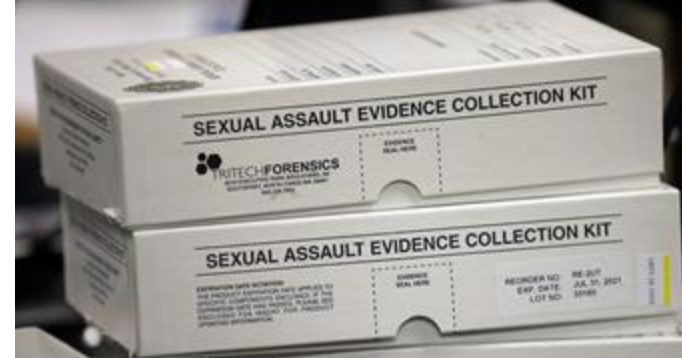
Costs of the Medical Forensic Examination

- Under Minnesota law, the county where the sexual assault occurred is responsible for the cost of collecting evidence during the medical forensic examination.
- The county must pay regardless of whether or not the victim/survivor reports to law enforcement.
- The county can only bill private insurance if the victim/survivor gives permission.
- Costs beyond the medical forensic examination (ie: broken leg) are not paid for by the county.

<https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/ojp/help-for-crime-victims/Pages/default.aspx>

Statewide Reporting Options

- **Unrestricted** SAK the hospital will notify law enforcement to collect the SAK
- Law enforcement collects **Unrestricted** SAK within 10 days
- Law enforcement sends **Unrestricted** SAK to the BCA for testing within 60 days
- **Restricted** SAK the hospital sends the SAK to the BCA for storage within 60 days
- **Restricted** SAKs stored at the BCA for 30 months



Minn. Stat.
299c.106

Submission and Storage of Sexual Assault Kits

- (b) **Within 60 days** of a hospital preparing a restricted sexual assault examination kit or a law enforcement agency receiving a restricted sexual assault examination kit from a hospital, **the hospital or the agency shall submit the kit to the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA).**
- BCA shall store all restricted sexual assault examination kits collected by hospitals or law enforcement agencies in the state.
- BCA shall retain a restricted sexual assault examination kit for at least **30 months** from the date the bureau receives the kit.



Web Database Required

- The commissioner must maintain a website with a **searchable database** providing sexual assault victims with information on the status of their individual sexual assault examination kit.
- The superintendent must strictly control access to the database to protect the privacy of the victims' data.



MINNESOTA CRIME VICTIM RIGHTS

REFERENCE GUIDE FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE AGENCIES AND PROFESSIONALS

Courts • Prosecutors • Law Enforcement
Probation • Jails • Corrections

<https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/ojp/forms-documents/Documents/Victim%20Rights%20Reference%20Guide.pdf>



Help for Crime Victims

- o Victim Service Programs
- o Ayuda Para Victimas
- o Cawitlan – Somali
- o Help - Hmoob
- o **Financial Help**
- o **Victim Notification**
- o Crime Victim Rights
- o Crime Victim Justice Unit
- o Identity Theft
- o **Professional Resources**
- o **Mass Violence Resources**

Expand All Collapse All

IF YOU ARE A CRIME VICTIM, HELP IS AVAILABLE.

Finding help

[Click here](#) to find a victim service provider and other resources in Minnesota. During the COVID-19 health emergency, some programs may be providing services remotely, so please call ahead.

Financial Assistance

Victims of violent crime can file a [claim for reparations](#) for certain expenses related to the crime.

[Emergency funds](#) may be available for certain victims.

Crime Victim Rights

Victims in Minnesota have [statutory rights](#) regarding notification, participation, compensation, and protection.

Victims who feel their crime victim rights have been violated or they have been mistreated by a member or entity of the criminal justice system can contact the [Crime Victim Justice Unit](#).

dps.mn.gov/divisions/ojp/help-for-crime-victims/Pages/default.aspx

Sexual Assault Advocates Are Helpful!



ESCAPE TO WEATHER.COM →

«BACK TO WEBSITE [Translate](#)

PUBLIC DIRECTORY

All Contacts in Public Directory

- Search Options

Please select the Search Options available for you to narrow down your search.

Contact

--Any Contact--

City

Duluth

State

--Any State--

Zip Code

County/Sovereign Nations

--Any County/Sovereign Nations --

Country

--Any Country--

Program Types

--Any Program Types --

Program Services

--Any Program Services --

Program Languages

--Any Program Languages --

Regions

--Any Regions --

SEARCH



www.mncasa.org

<https://mncasa.org/find-help/>

PUBLIC DIRECTORY

All Contacts in Public Directory

+ Search Options

Please select the Search Options available for you to narrow down your search.

Current Search Criteria:

City: **Duluth** State: **MN**

PAVSA



+ More Information

Contact Address

PAVSA
32 East First Street, Ste. 200,
Duluth, MN 55802 , US

Phone Number

Business Phone
[\(218\) 726-1442](tel:(218)726-1442)
Crisis Number
[\(218\) 726-1931](tel:(218)726-1931)
Fax
[\(218\) 720-4890](tel:(218)720-4890)

Website

[Website](#)

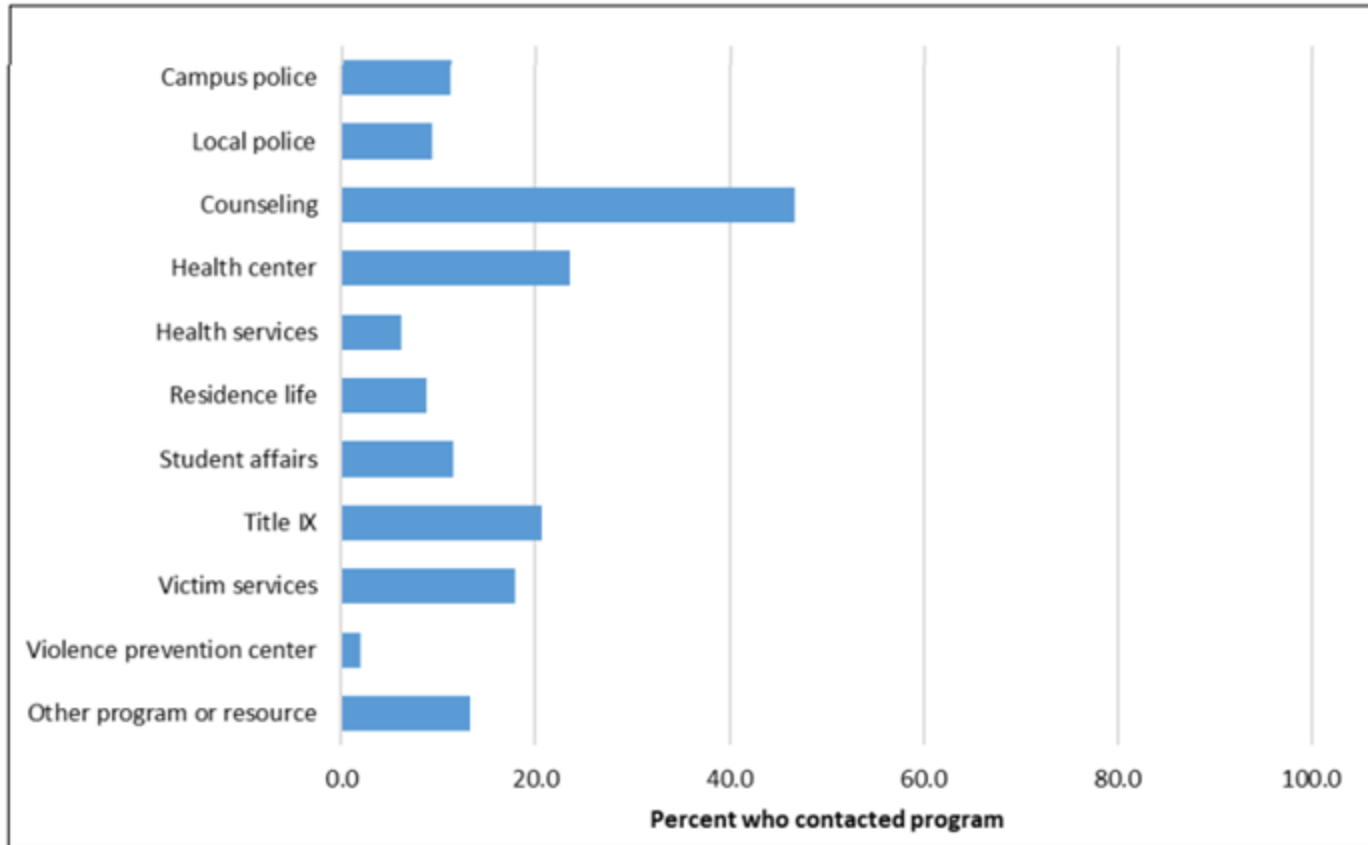
Social Media Info

[Facebook](#)

Community Connections



Figure 30. Percent victims who contacted a program by type of program



The State of Campus Advocacy

- 1) Title IX Coordinator
- 2) In-house/Contracted Local Advocates
- 3) Campus-specific Confidential Advocates

Where does your campus fall?

The Need for Community Connection

“We all do better when
we all do better.”
- Sen. Paul Wellstone



Beyond Awareness-Raising



Stop Raising Awareness Already
Ann Christiano & Annie Neimand
Stanford Social Innovation Review, 2017

Motivating Action: going beyond awareness raising to have an impact
Dr. Julia E. Moore, Senior Director for the Center for Implementation
Fall Prevention Community of Practice, 2019

Questions to ask an RCC

- What approaches do you take toward collaboration?
- Is your center able to individualize programming for specific needs, or do you just have already-prepared programming?
- What can victims/survivors expect when they call you?
- What does your agency offer that might not be immediately apparent (i.e. advocacy, counseling partnerships, volunteer or internship opportunities)?
- What are the limits to your services? Are there any situations we should absolutely NOT refer people to you?
- Has there been an MOU between our organizations in the past?

Campus SART

Goal of SARTs = to create long-term improvements to local systems of response to sexual violence

- *Campus Key Players:*

- Title IX Coordinator
- Campus-based Advocates
- Campus Attorney
- Campus Security
- Clinical & Counseling Services
- Campus Affairs
- Athletic Personnel

- *Community Key Players:*

- Advocates
- SANEs
- Law Enforcement
- County Attorney

Key Takeaways

- Implement a prevention lens into your response
- Don't reinvent the wheel
- Be an authentic collaborator
- Take proactive steps
- Center and support victims/survivors and students

Website: www.mncasa.org

Instagram: [@mncasa](https://www.instagram.com/mncasa)

Facebook: [@MNCASAINFO](https://www.facebook.com/MNCASAINFO)

Twitter: [@MNCASA1](https://twitter.com/MNCASA1)

LinkedIn: [The Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault](https://www.linkedin.com/company/the-minnesota-coalition-against-sexual-assault)

