

Victim Statistics

| | CONNSACS' Member Programs | | CONNSACS Victim Advocates in Sex Offender Supervision Units | |
|--|---------------------------|---------|---|---------|
| Total Victims and Families Served | 4,166 | 100.00% | 1,858 | 100.00% |
| Sex | | | | |
| Female | 3,569 | 85.67% | 1,632 | 87.84% |
| Male | 596 | 14.31% | 226 | 12.16% |
| Transgender | 0 | 0.00% | 0 | 0.00% |
| Intersex | 1 | 0.02% | 0 | 0.00% |
| Age | | | | |
| 0 - 12 | 418 | 10.03% | 182 | 9.80% |
| 13 - 17 | 606 | 14.55% | 270 | 14.53% |
| 18 - 24 | 627 | 15.05% | 474 | 25.51% |
| 25 - 44 | 1,898 | 45.56% | 637 | 34.28% |
| 45 - 64 | 586 | 14.07% | 276 | 14.85% |
| 65 + | 31 | 0.74% | 19 | 1.02% |
| Race | | | | |
| African American | 552 | 13.25% | 239 | 12.86% |
| Asian | 23 | 0.55% | 15 | 0.81% |
| Caucasian | 2,394 | 57.47% | 1,252 | 67.38% |
| Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander | 2 | 0.05% | 1 | 0.05% |
| Latina/o | 784 | 18.82% | 253 | 13.62% |
| Native American | 7 | 0.17% | 2 | 0.11% |
| Other | 74 | 1.78% | 13 | 0.70% |
| Undisclosed | 330 | 7.92% | 83 | 4.47% |
| Disability | | | | |
| Disabled | 687 | 16.49% | 42 | 2.26% |
| None | 2,220 | 53.29% | 1,720 | 92.57% |
| Undisclosed | 1,259 | 30.22% | 96 | 5.17% |
| Crime | | | | |
| Attempted Rape | 128 | 3.07% | 55 | 2.96% |
| Child Sexual Abuse | 1,633 | 39.20% | 885 | 47.63% |
| Cohabiting Rape | 62 | 1.49% | 21 | 1.13% |
| Gang Rape | 70 | 1.68% | 19 | 1.02% |
| Incest | 467 | 11.21% | 106 | 5.71% |
| Other | 0 | 0.00% | 382 | 20.56% |
| Rape | 1,292 | 31.01% | 192 | 10.33% |
| Sexual Contact | 304 | 7.30% | 165 | 8.88% |
| Sexual Harassment | 129 | 3.10% | 27 | 1.45% |
| Spousal Rape | 81 | 1.94% | 6 | 0.32% |
| Offender | | | | |
| Known | 3,343 | 80.24% | 1524 | 82.02% |
| Stranger | 335 | 8.04% | 160 | 8.61% |
| Undisclosed | 488 | 11.71% | 174 | 9.36% |

CONNSACS' projects and services are made possible through funding from: Office of Victim Services, Superior Court Operations Division, State of Connecticut Judicial Branch, Victims of Crime Act Victim Assistance Act Grant Program; U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women and Office for Victims of Crime; State of Connecticut, Department of Public Health, Department of Correction and Office of Policy and Management; U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and private grants and donations. Points of view in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of funders.



Center for Women and Families



Women's Center of Greater Danbury



WOMEN & FAMILIES CENTER



Rape Crisis Center of Milford, Inc.



eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca
YWCA of New Britain



Susan B. Anthony Project
SAFETY - HEALING - GROWTH



Sexual Assault Crisis and Education Center, Inc.



Safe Haven of Greater Waterbury, Inc.



SEXUAL ASSAULT CRISIS CENTER OF EASTERN CONNECTICUT

CONNSACS' Member Programs

Center for Women and Families
Eastern Fairfield County, Inc.
(Bridgeport)
Office: 203-334-6154
Hotline: 203-333-2233

Women's Center of Greater Danbury Sexual Assault Crisis Services, Inc.
Office: 203-731-5200
Hotline: 203-731-5204

Women and Families Center Sexual Assault Crisis Services (Middletown/Meriden/New Haven)
Office: 203-235-9297 (Meriden)
Hotline: 203-389-9700
Office: 860-344-1474 (Middletown)
Hotline: 203-389-9700
Office: 203-389-5010 (New Haven)
Hotline: 203-389-9700

Rape Crisis Center of Milford
Office: 203-874-8712
Hotline: 203-878-1212

New Britain YWCA Sexual Assault Crisis Services (Hartford/New Britain)
Office: 860-225-4681 (New Britain)
Hotline: 860-223-1787
Office: 860-241-9217 (Hartford)
Hotline: 860-547-1022

Stamford Sexual Assault Crisis and Education Center
Office: 203-348-9346
Hotline: 203-329-2929

Susan B. Anthony Project (Torrington)
Office: 860-489-3798
Hotline: 860-482-7133

Safe Haven of Greater Waterbury
Office: 203-753-3613
Hotline: 203-753-3613

Sexual Assault Crisis Center of Eastern Connecticut (Willimantic)
Office: 860-456-3595
Hotline: 860-456-2789

Statewide Toll Free 24-Hour Confidential Hotline
888-999-5545 (English)
888-568-8332 (Español)



Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services, Inc.
96 Pitkin Street
East Hartford, CT 06108
860-282-9881
www.connsacs.org



Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services, Inc.

Annual Report 2007-2008

“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about things that matter.”

- Martin Luther King, Jr.

Our Mission

Connecticut Sexual Assault Crisis Services' mission is to end sexual violence and ensure high quality, comprehensive, and culturally competent sexual assault victim services.

CONNSACS is a statewide association of individual sexual assault crisis programs. CONNSACS actively seeks and administers funds to develop and support its member organizations; participates in collaborative efforts to support social change with national, state, and local organizations; provides a forum for the exchange of skills and information regarding the response to, and prevention of sexual assault; and serves as a mechanism for the development and maintenance of appropriate standards of services of rape crisis centers.

CONNSACS Board of Directors 2007 - 2008

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CONNSACS Staff As of June 2008

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Shannon Smith, Victim Advocate
Mary St. Juste, Victim Advocate
Sarita Stallings, Operations Coordinator
Joanne Zannoni, Associate Director
Jamie Mills, Retained Counsel

Connecticut's Leading Voice to End Sexual Violence

CONNSACS maintains a strong community presence and ensures that the rights and needs of victims are adequately represented in a variety of forums. In the past year, we have given voice to victims as active members of the following commissions, task forces, and groups:

- Office of Victim Services Advisory Council
- Office of the Victim Advocate Advisory Board
- Trafficking in Persons Council
- Sentencing Task Force
- Sex Offender Risk Assessment Board
- Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Commission
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Task Force
- Connecticut College Consortium Against Sexual Assault
- State Department of Public Health's Injury Community Planning Group
- State Department of Public Health's Sexual Violence Prevention Planning Committee
- University of Connecticut's Institute for Violence Prevention and Reduction
- Working Group on Women in Prison
- Commission on the Standardization of the Collection of Evidence in Sexual Assault Investigations
- SANE/SAFE Coalition
- Connecticut Women's Health Campaign
- Jane Doe No More, Inc. Advisory Board
- Healthy Teens Coalition

CONNSACS is recognized and respected as the state's leading voice to end sexual violence, and members of the community look to us for leadership on issues related to sexual assault prevention, response, and advocacy. We remain committed to being active participants in state-level discussions that could impact the lives of sexual assault victims.

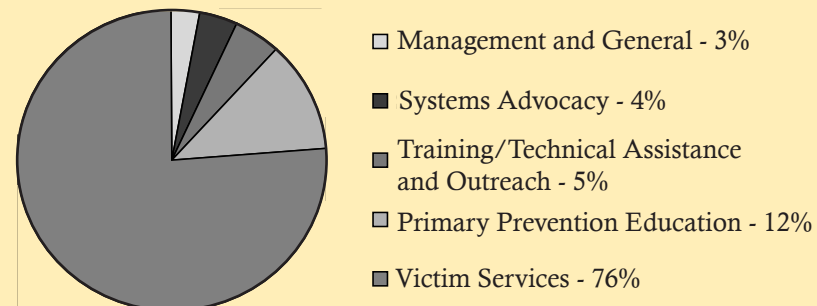
Victim Advocates: Sharing the Victim's Perspective

In early 2008, CONNSACS victim advocates marked the end of their first year of involvement in all fourteen of Connecticut's Sex Offender Supervision Units after many years of service in three units: Hartford, New Haven, and New London. Thanks to this increase in victim advocate placement, the total number of sexual assault victims receiving services in Connecticut increased an amazing 42% last year. Connecticut is the only state in the country to have victim advocates in all probation units statewide, and their presence has succeeded in bringing a more victim-centered approach to the community management of sex offenders.

Having advocates in probation and parole units acknowledges that a victim's need for support and services does not necessarily end when an offender is sentenced. Victims may have an ongoing interest in their offenders' status within the criminal justice system, including plans for their release, probation, or parole. They may also want to express how changes in an offender's status will impact their lives. CONNSACS victim advocates have become safe conduits through which sexual assault victims can receive information and offer input.

Victim advocates have also provided valuable service to offenders' partners, children, and friends (tertiary victims) who are affected by their loved one's perpetration. Victim advocates provide these tertiary victims with the information and tools they need to support offenders once they are released back into the community. This support plays an important role in creating accountability and reducing the risk of offender recidivism.

CONNSACS Expenses - For the year ending June 30, 2008



Talking to the Community

As the state's leading voice to end sexual violence, CONNSACS maintains an ongoing conversation with the public on the topic of sexual violence. Open and informed dialogue destigmatizes the issue and creates opportunities for people to enhance their understanding of sexual violence. In the past year, CONNSACS has reached thousands of Connecticut residents with accurate and empowering information.

In the summer of 2007, CONNSACS hosted a screening of "No! The Rape Documentary" in conjunction with The Institute for Violence Prevention at the University of Connecticut School of Social Work. This powerful documentary examines sexual violence and healing in the African-American community, and we were honored to have its director, Aishah Shahidah Simmons, participate in a panel discussion following the screening. Nearly fifty advocates, students, and community members came together for this conversation about violence against African-American women.

Sexual Assault Awareness Month, observed nationally during the month of April, provided another excellent opportunity to discuss sexual assault with the community. This year, CONNSACS sent information about sexual violence to over thirty media outlets throughout the state, including major newspapers, college publications, radio stations, and television networks. As a result of this outreach, CONNSACS was able to speak directly to thousands of Connecticut residents and confront common misconceptions about sexual violence.

Being Heard at the Capitol

CONNSACS recognizes the importance of public policy in supporting and protecting victims of sexual violence. We have outstanding relationships with state lawmakers on both sides of the aisle, and we take pride in our record of supporting bills that will improve services for victims and hold offenders accountable.

Following several years of advocacy, lawmakers passed a bill during the 2008 legislative session that closes the gap in access to protective orders for many sexual assault victims. PA 08 - 84, which went into effect on October 1, 2008, provides an opportunity for all victims of sexual violence to request a protective order. Prior to the passage of this law, sexual assault victims who did not have a prior relationship with their offender were able to obtain a no contact order but were not able to receive a protective order, which carries a stronger penalty for violation.

State lawmakers showed strong support for other CONNSACS-supported bills during the 2008 legislative session. Priority issues during the session included: the creation of a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program to ensure 24 hour access to SANEs at hospitals, and support for comprehensive sex education in public schools.

Ongoing Conversations: Primary Prevention Education

Primary prevention is a cornerstone of CONNSACS' efforts to end sexual violence. While victim services traditionally focus on assisting and supporting survivors in the aftermath of an assault (tertiary prevention), primary prevention examines the ideas, behaviors, and environments that encourage perpetration. Since it began funding primary prevention initiatives, CONNSACS has been at the forefront of innovative and effective primary prevention programming.

Primary prevention aims to change attitudes and behaviors, and successful transformations often require more than a single session of education. Multi-session programming creates opportunities for ongoing conversations and has proven effective in helping participants confront myths and misconceptions related to sexual violence. Multi-session primary prevention programming accounted for 1% of prevention education programs in 2001; during this fiscal year, a remarkable 56% of primary prevention education in Connecticut included multi-session programs.

Primary prevention education encourages everyone in our society to accept an active role in ending sexual violence. When we speak out against violence, hate, and oppression of any kind, we contribute to a culture in which offending attitudes and behaviors are unacceptable. CONNSACS is confident that its cutting-edge primary prevention education will continue to challenge individuals to accept personal responsibility for creating a society that is free of violence.