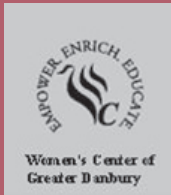


Victim Statistics

	CONNSACS' Member Programs		CONNSACS Victim Advocates in Sex Offender Supervision Units	
Total Victims and Families Served	3,696	100.00%	1,057	100.00%
Sex				
Female	3,132	84.74%	910	86.09%
Male	558	15.10%	147	13.91%
Transgender	6	0.16%	0	0.00%
Intersex	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Age				
0 - 12	334	9.04%	150	14.19%
13 - 17	533	14.42%	137	12.96%
18 - 24	538	14.56%	224	21.19%
25 - 44	1,659	44.89%	309	29.23%
45 - 64	586	15.85%	166	15.70%
65 +	19	0.51%	21	1.99%
Unknown	27	0.73%	50	4.73%
Race				
African American	544	14.72%	137	12.96%
Asian	26	0.70%	5	0.47%
Caucasian	2,246	60.77%	693	65.56%
Hawaiian/ Pacific Islander	7	0.19%	2	0.19%
Latina/o	678	18.34%	192	18.16%
Native American	7	0.19%	0	0.00%
Other	56	1.52%	0	0.00%
Undisclosed	132	3.57%	28	2.65%
Disability				
Has a disability	562	15.21%	17	1.61%
None	2,141	57.93%	1,029	97.35%
Undisclosed	993	26.87%	11	1.04%
Crime				
Attempted Rape	88	2.38%	31	2.93%
Child Sexual Abuse	1,575	42.61%	432	40.87%
Cohabiting Rape	42	1.14%	5	0.47%
Gang Rape	73	1.98%	5	0.47%
Incest	469	12.69%	47	4.45%
Other	0	0.00%	108	10.22%
Rape	1,054	28.52%	318	30.09%
Sexual Contact	226	6.11%	92	8.70%
Sexual Harassment	95	2.57%	14	1.32%
Spousal Rape	74	2.00%	5	0.47%
Offender				
Known	3,099	83.85%	868	82.12%
Stranger	269	7.28%	156	14.76%
Undisclosed	328	8.87%	33	3.12%



Center for Women and Families



Women's Center of Greater Danbury



WOMEN & FAMILIES CENTER



of Milford, Inc.



YWCA of New Britain



Susan B. Anthony Project
SAFETY · HEALING · GROWTH



Sexual Assault Crisis and Education Center, Inc.



Safe Haven of Greater Waterbury, Inc.



EASTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY

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

The Center for Sexual Assault Crisis
Counseling and Education (Stamford)
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 2008 - 2009



*We dedicate this publication to
the memory of Gail Burns-Smith,
an inspirational leader whose
vision serves as the foundation
of our work.*

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 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.

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 Staff As of June 2009

Nancy Kushins, Executive Director
Kellye Bageon, Victim Advocate
Elizabeth Cafarella, Director of Public Policy and Communication
Stephanie Caruso, Victim Advocate
Anna Doroghazi, Community Relations Coordinator
April Embelton, Victim Advocate
Alison Goodman, Victim Advocate
Tina Greaves, Senior Victim Advocate
Stephanie Headley, Senior Victim Advocate
Yvonne Lee, Victim Advocate
Tara Martin, Director of Human Resources
Tracy Miller-Freeman, Victim Advocate
Shana Moredock, Victim Advocate
Beth Ann Morhardt, Prevention and Training Coordinator
Diane Moylan-Cooke, Victim Advocate
Ayana Nadira, Special Projects Coordinator
Sonia Rodriguez, Victim Advocate
Shannon Smith, Victim Advocate
Mary St. Juste, Victim Advocate
Sara Thaxton, Victim Advocate
Matt Wilhelm, Quality Assurance Coordinator
Joanne Zannoni, Associate Director
Jamie Mills, Retained Counsel

CONNSACS Board of Directors 2008 - 2009

David D'Amora, President
Anne Boychuk, Vice President
Gerald Stowell, Treasurer
Mary Farrell
Donna Feinstein
Georgette Katin
Natacha Kerelejza
Melissa Malagutti

Gail Burns-Smith: Tribute to an Advocate

When Gail Burns-Smith unexpectedly passed away on September 5, 2009, friends and advocates nationwide grieved the loss of an outstanding woman and an inspirational leader. As the Executive Director of CONNSACS from its inception in 1982 until her retirement in 2004, Gail was tireless in her efforts to draw attention to sexual violence and improve the response to victims and survivors. Due to her leadership, Connecticut passed laws to: prohibit police from giving polygraphs to sexual assault victims; address stalking offenses; and require mandatory sexual harassment training for supervisors in workplaces with over 50 employees. She established a statewide Spanish hotline, co-founded the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence, and helped develop an approach to sex offender supervision that became a national model. The full list of Gail's accomplishments would fill volumes.

Gail is remembered not only for her myriad achievements but for her wry sense of humor and strength of character. Gail was considered by many in the sexual assault crisis movement to be a founding mother, mentor, and friend. Indeed, Gail taught many people about what it means to be an advocate. Her innovative spirit and ability to see an issue from all angles led to pioneering efforts such as the Victim/Survivor Advisory Council, Sex Offender Supervision Units, and primary prevention work.

Gail's vision for a world free of sexual violence remains the foundation of all that CONNSACS does. Her life and work are an inspiration to those who knew her, and CONNSACS endeavors to honor her legacy by remaining Connecticut's leading voice to end sexual violence.

Anti-Oppression Work and Primary Prevention

Sexual violence does not exist in a vacuum. Every act of sexual assault is the product of pre-existing ideas and beliefs. The inequitable attitudes about power and control that drive sexual violence can also manifest themselves as racism, sexism, homophobia, and other forms of oppression. Because we cannot achieve Gail's vision of ending rape in a world where people face discrimination based on their gender, sexual orientation, race, physical ability, or socioeconomic status, CONNSACS is committed to confronting all forms of oppression.

Gail was a national leader in introducing the concept of primary prevention to anti-violence work. Primary prevention recognizes that the seeds of sexual assault are sown long before an attack occurs. Perpetrators act on the belief that it is acceptable to dominate and control other people. Confronting these oppressive beliefs is key to ending sexual violence before it occurs. Gail laid a strong foundation for the primary prevention approach at CONNSACS, and the organization is excited to incorporate anti-oppression efforts into its ongoing work.

Support Throughout the Criminal Justice System

The criminal justice process can be intimidating, and sexual assault crisis advocates play a vital role in supporting survivors at all stages of their involvement. Beginning with the moment they report an assault to law enforcement and lasting even after an offender has been convicted, survivors may have questions and concerns about what is going to happen and how they can stay safe. In addition to providing technical assistance and training to advocates who assist survivors in the early stages of the criminal justice system, CONNSACS also employs specialized victim advocates who work with survivors after their offenders are released from prison.

During her time at CONNSACS, Gail realized that a survivor's need for support and services does not necessarily stop once an offender is sentenced. This realization led Gail to establish an innovative model for sex offender supervision that placed victim advocates in select probation units throughout the state of Connecticut. These specialized advocates, who now collaborate with both probation and parole, work to represent survivors' interests in sex offender treatment units and keep survivors informed of their offenders' status in the system.

Because the criminal justice system is constantly evolving, CONNSACS works to ensure that advocates are kept up-to-date with changes. In October of 2008, CONNSACS collaborated with the state of Connecticut's Chief Child Protection Attorney, the Office of the Victim Advocate, and the Office of Victim Services to provide a training on child legal issues, protection orders, and court-based victim advocates. Trainings such as these keep advocates informed and ensure that survivors are supported throughout the criminal justice process.

Statewide Involvement

Gail saw the value of being involved in any statewide discussions that could impact victims. In the past year, CONNSACS collaborated with the following commissions, task forces, and groups on behalf of victims and survivors:

- Office of Victim Services Advisory Council
- Office of the Victim Advocate Advisory Board
- Trafficking in Persons Council
- Sentencing Task Force
- Criminal Justice Policy Advisory Commission
- Working Against Violence Everywhere (formerly the LGBT 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
- Everybody Benefits Coalition
- Anti-Discrimination Coalition

“One Thing”

Every year during the month of April, CONNSACS and its member programs commemorate Sexual Assault Awareness Month with a variety of fundraisers, events, and activities designed to honor survivors and educate the public about sexual violence. Sexual violence remains a strongly stigmatized issue in our society, and survivors often feel as though no one is willing to listen to their experiences and confront the reality of victimization.

Gail believed strongly that survivors were the foundation of CONNSACS' work and deserved to be heard. She was instrumental in developing the Victim/Survivor Advisory Council, a group of survivors who meet regularly and inform the work of the coalition. In 2009, CONNSACS worked with its Victim/Survivor Advisory Council to produce the “One Thing” video as a way to share survivors' voices with the public. In the video eight survivors shared the “one thing” that they would want the world to know about sexual violence if the world were willing to listen. The experiences conveyed in the video are evidence against many of the myths about sexual assault. Survivors shared that they were assaulted by family members and other people who they knew and trusted. They asserted that sexual assault is not about provocative clothing, that victims are not to blame, and that survivors are not alone. The final result was a video that is honest and empowering.

CONNSACS is grateful for all of the survivors who volunteered their time, voices, and experiences for this project. The video has been viewed nearly one thousand times online and serves as a powerful reminder of survivors' strength.

CONNSACS Expenses - For the year ending June 30, 2009

