



The RESOURCE

Newsletter of the National Sexual Violence Resource Center

Spring/Summer 2006

NSVRC to Oversee Directory of Sexual Assault Centers in the United States

*Virginia Sexual & Domestic
Violence Action Alliance
(VSDVAA) Passes
Directory to NSVRC*

Nearly everyone would agree that having a current and comprehensive listing of sexual assault centers in the United States is a wonderful resource. But would they know that maintaining and distributing such a resource requires constant care and updates? For nearly a decade, the Virginians Aligned Against Sexual Assault (VAASA), (and beginning in 2004, VSDVAA) has done just that; the organization has maintained an important resource, a national listing entitled *National Directory of Sexual Assault Programs*. The directory and the VSDVAA's efforts to maintain it deserve recognition. Coalitions, centers and other organizations purchased the Directory for a variety of reasons, but most especially for making referrals.

Recently, VSDVAA decided to pass the directory on to the NSVRC. This decision made sense both to the coalition and to the NSVRC; so beginning in the fall of 2006 the directory will reappear as a publication of the NSVRC. It will be entitled: *Directory of Sexual Assault Centers in the United States*.

National Crime Victim Service Award Presented to Delilah Rumburg

On April 21, 2006 Alberto R. Gonzales, Attorney General of the United States presented the **2006 National Crime Victim Service Award** to Delilah Rumburg, Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape (PCAR) and the National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC). This presentation was part of the *2006 National Crime Victims' Rights Week Awards Ceremony* in Washington DC.



*Delilah Rumburg poses with
US Attorney General Alberto Gonzales
April 2006, Washington DC.*

Each year the Attorney General honors extraordinary individuals and programs that provide service to victims of crime. Rumburg received the award in recognition of her many contributions in service of crime victims rights. As a revered national leader in anti-sexual violence work, Rumburg has helped to shape national policy on violence against women.

Among her many accomplishments within the state of Pennsylvania is her service as a gubernatorial appointee to

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The NSVRC, like VAASA before it, has focused on establishing the best procedures and mechanisms for maintaining a current, comprehensive resource. To reflect the constantly changing landscape of sexual assault centers in this country, the NSVRC commits itself to producing multiple editions annually.

The NSVRC has expanded the listings for US Territories and will continue to highlight coalitions.

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NSVRC

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The NSVRC invites your comments:

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NSVRC Council Member Winner of Rockport's *The Difference Inside Contest*

Kellie Greene, NSVRC Advisory Council member was selected as one of four winners of Rockport's *The Difference Inside Contest*. In the April 2006 issue of *Self* magazine, Rockport explains that "it is the differences inside that define and motivate us," recognizing Kellie as an extraordinary woman doing truly extraordinary things.



In 1994 Kellie was raped and on the fifth anniversary of her assault, she went skydiving to reclaim that day as her own. But Kellie's mission to redefine her past didn't stop there. She was determined to turn her trauma into a positive means to change her life - and the lives of other victims of sexual assault.

Kellie is the Founder and Director of SOAR (Speaking Out About Rape), a national awareness, education and prevention program that empowers survivors of sexual violence. By talking about her rape, and more importantly, her survival, Kellie has had an enormous impact on hundreds of thousands of university students, law enforcement agents, rape victims and their families (Self, April 2006)

We congratulate Kellie on this well-deserved honor. For information on SOAR activities, such as Operation Freefall, visit: info@soar99.org.



Police Training Offered in Indian Country

By
Susan Lewis Ph.D.

Ensuring effective, humane responses to crimes of violence against women remains a central challenge for everyone involved with the crimes - from law enforcement and prosecutors to advocates and family members. Since crimes of domestic and sexual violence often mean trauma and pain for the victim, advocates stress the importance of incorporating sensitivity when giving assistance. But it is equally important to understand the nature and characteristics of victimization such as the fact that victimization is often ongoing, and that victims may feel confused and afraid, and have a host of emotions and concerns for family and safety. In the end, understanding the trauma and nature of these crimes is not merely about being sensitive, but also about being an effective police officer, prosecutor or advocate.

Typically advocates have called for better training for police officers responding to violent crimes against women; often they have been the ones to offer trainings to first responders. Recently, however, a few new national initiatives have emerged that underscore the need to train police and other first responders. One such program, conducted by the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC), Office of State and Local Training, Department of Homeland Security, is a series of trainings targeting tribal police officers and others involved in law enforcement in Indian Country. Entitled *Domestic Violence Indian Country Training Program*, these trainings are presented in various locations nationwide and include a train-the-trainer segment.

In April, I had the opportunity to observe one of these trainings in Bismarck, North Dakota. This was the first of six trainings this year, funded by the Office on Violence Against Women, Department of Justice. The curriculum is well developed offering instruction, resources, activities and discussions, all emphasizing the major theme: 'Safety for Native Women.' Also noteworthy, this training breaks new ground in several ways.

First, it approaches a particularly difficult challenge, responding effectively and meaningfully to domestic and sexual violence in Indian Country. The high rate of domestic and sexual violence against Native women has been documented, and yet knowing how to best respond and provide services continues to challenge us. In part, this is

because of the impact of historical oppression and a maze of jurisdictional laws that confuse and complicate, reporting, service delivery in general, and justice, in particular. Having such training that focuses on Indian Country is, indeed, an important initiative.

A second significant characteristic of this training is that the substance and delivery are essentially from law enforcement rather than advocates. That said, the development of this program and curricula, and part of the delivery, intentionally involves input and assistance from victim advocates. While this served an effective venue for the voice of advocacy, the fact that it was conducted by the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center carries real credibility, especially for many police officers. The substance of the training often incorporated and emphasized thinking about cases from the point of view of the victim; that is, the investigation focuses on safety of the victim.

A third unique aspect of this training is its commitment to presenting, in fact, to entwining information about native cultures throughout the five-day course.

The challenge for the participants was not only to learn about the crimes and responding to victims, but to understand how native victims often hold different values, have different concerns and may react in different ways. This training recognizes, upfront, that it is impossible in a five-day course to

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Graphic of the Domestic Violence
Indian Country Training Program.

Supreme Court Clarifies Admissibility of 911 Calls in Crawford Context

By
Wendy J. Murphy, JD
New England School of Law

In an important victory for law enforcement and crime victims, especially child victims of sexual abuse and battered women, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled on June 20th, in two related cases (*Davis v. Washington* and *Hammon v. Indiana*) that when a person makes a statement to a 911 operator or to police at a crime scene, those statements may be used as evidence in a criminal trial. These were crucial rulings because such statements often contain key information about the crime that not only helps to corroborate a victim's testimony at trial but also can provide all the evidence necessary for a conviction in the event the victim refuses to testify.

The rulings clarified an earlier decision (*Crawford v. Washington*) in which the Court held that certain "testimonial hearsay" (formal statements made by witnesses outside the trial, such as during a stationhouse interview with police or testimony to a grand jury) usually cannot be admitted at trial if the victim doesn't testify. The Court was rightly concerned that admitting such evidence without allowing the accused conduct cross-examination would be unfair.

Only "testimonial hearsay" (as opposed to other types of hearsay such as evidence contained in medical records) had been struck down in the court's earlier decision, and "testimonial" apparently meant statements intended for use as evidence at trial as the court's definition was: "a solemn declaration or affirmation made for the purpose of establishing or proving some fact". While it may seem obvious now, it was not clear until these new rulings that 911 calls and statements at the crime scene were not "testimonial" in nature.

Applying a healthy dose of common sense, the Court explained its reasoning - that in general, the purpose of a 911 call is not to make a "solemn declaration" but rather, to "obtain police assistance with an ongoing emergency". And at the scene of a crime, such as when police respond to a sexual assault call, statements are taken from the victim or witnesses not to obtain "testimonial" evidence but because police may need immediate information regarding urgencies related to the situation.

Apparently concerned that a police officer might take advantage of the rulings and use 911 calls or crime scene emergencies to "generate testimonial statements", the court added that the entirety of a 911 call or a crime scene statement might not be admissible if a police interrogation is initiated after the emergency subsides.

While it has always been important from a public safety and prevention standpoint to encourage sexual and domestic violence victims to call 911 and report the crimes to police, victims will now receive the added bonus of realizing that making that call may well save their lives AND save the prosecution's case.



SAAM 2006 - Award Winners

Every year, the NSVRC recognizes important anti-sexual violence work through its **Award for Outstanding Advocacy and Community Work in Ending Sexual Violence**.

This award recognizes those with significant accomplishments in raising awareness or promoting prevention of sexual violence, especially when it represents work or dedication above and beyond the normal scope of their daily work or mission. This year the NSVRC honored eleven individuals or organizations with this award; their names appear below.



This year, the NSVRC developed an additional award with various categories in order to broaden its scope of recognition. As a result the NSVRC honored winners in five categories with the **NSVRC National Award for Outstanding Response to and Prevention of Sexual Violence**.

The award recognizes outstanding individuals, groups, or organizational projects designed to prevent or reduce sexual violence on a large scale, highlights promising practices, and illustrates a wide range of strategies that, together, make our world a safer place. This year five categories for this award were: *Prevention, Intervention, Public Policy & Legislation, Media & Communications, and Corporate*. The winners appear on pages 6, 7 and 14.

Award for Outstanding Advocacy & Community Work in Ending Sexual Violence

Recipient

Nominating Organization

The Hon. Mary Kay Bukak	Indiana Coalition Against Sexual Assault
Janell Clark	Tennessee Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence
Family Resource Center, Inc.	Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Council (U.S. Virgin Islands)
Robert Judd	Utah Coalition Against Sexual Assault
M. Carmen Lane	Michigan Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Violence
Dr. Brenda Mirabal Colón	Puerto Rico Department of Health
Christine Payne	Healing Hearts Crisis Center (Guam)
Shelley Senterfitt	Georgia Network to End Sexual Assault
Katherine Thurin	Wyoming Coalition Against Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault
United Hospital Center	West Virginia Foundation for Rape Information and Services, Inc.
Nancy Withrow	Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape

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NSVRC National Award for Outstanding Research

Prevention

Teen Theatre

The Teen Theatre program from Tucson, Arizona presents issue-based theater to provide information to teens and other community members about rape and sexual assault. Teen Theatre empowers young people to educate other teens about relationship violence. Performances help teens recognize date rape in its many forms and strive to dispel myths about rape. Each performance encourages audiences to speak out against relationship violence and provides resources and contact information for those who need help. Committed to educating their peers and raising awareness of sexual violence, these teens work well as a team in their effort to end sexual violence.

The youth participating in Teen Theatre are a diverse group of teen volunteers united by a common purpose - they all believe in and have a passion for date rape prevention. The members of Teen Theatre are Elias Teran, Jasmine Cavanaugh, Samantha Turner, Matt Brown, Arron Bessett, and Nnykol Schieck.



Joanne Archambault

Intervention

Joanne Archambault is the Executive Director of EAW (End Violence Against Women) International and the President/Training Director of Sexual Assault Training & Investigation (SATI). EAW International, a non-profit organization provides affordable training for all disciplines with an emphasis on the law enforcement investigation and proper criminal justice responses to sexual assault and domestic violence. SATI provides effective, victim-centered, multi-disciplinary training and expert consultation regarding crimes of sexual assault.



During her tenure as supervisor at the San Diego Police Department, she co-authored the San Diego County Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Resource Pamphlet and produced a video on SART, which is used as a training aid for professionals responding to sexual assault. In 1999, while working with the National Center for Women & Policing, Ms. Archambault helped develop the first national sexual assault training curriculum for law enforcement. To enhance this work, in 2001, she produced a series of training videos entitled *Sexual Assault Training and Investigations: The Preliminary Response*.

Ms. Archambault serves on numerous national advisory boards including the National Institute of Justice, the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, the STOP Violence Against Women Grants Technical Assistance Project, the American Prosecutor's Research Institute and the International Association of Chiefs of Police. She has written and co-authored a number of articles and chapters on various subjects relating to the criminal justice response to sexual assault crimes. She lectures extensively to multi-disciplinary audiences on the role of law enforcement in the investigation of sex crimes internationally.

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Response to and Prevention of Sexual Violence

Public Policy & Legislation

The Honorable Melissa Hart

Congresswoman Hart, a U.S. Representative from the 4th District of Pennsylvania, is a champion of victim rights and services. During her decade long tenure as a Pennsylvania State Senator, she was a prime sponsor of legislation to create the Office of the Victim Advocate and supported the re-codification of sexual assault statutes in Pennsylvania. After being elected to the U.S. House of Representatives, Rep. Hart worked tirelessly to assure funding for sexual assault programs, to strengthen laws concerning child pornography and abduction, to protect unborn victims of violence, and to promote a safer society.



Rep. Hart served with dedication as a sponsor of the Violence Against Women Act, a vital source of funds in support of efforts to end violence against women. Congresswoman Hart is also one of the first to advocate for the protection of Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds, a major funding source for victim services throughout the nation. Rep. Hart has consistently supported VOCA. She played an instrumental role in ensuring that the Anti-Spam Law required notification of sexually explicit material in unsolicited emails and introduced Laci and Conner's Law which now makes it a crime to harm a fetus during an assault on a pregnant woman.

Media & Communications

Aishah Shahidah Simmons

Aishah Shahidah Simmons is an award-winning African-American, feminist, lesbian, independent documentary filmmaker, television and radio producer, and writer, lecturer, and activist based in Philadelphia, PA. She is the founder and president of AfroLez® Productions, LLC, a multimedia arts company committed to using the moving image and the written and spoken word to address those issues which have a negative impact on marginalized and disenfranchised people.



The producer of *NO! The Rape Documentary*, Ms. Simmons has spent more than 10 years making the documentary a reality. Testimonies from Black women survivors, and commentaries from acclaimed African-American women scholars and community leaders impact archival footage, spirited music, dance, and performance poetry. *NO!* unveils the reality of rape, other forms of sexual violence, and healing in African-American

communities. An incest and a rape survivor, Ms. Simmons previously completed internationally acclaimed shorts *Silence...Broken* and *In My Father's House* explore the issues of race, gender, homophobia, rape and misogyny.

Ms. Simmons is the author of several articles published in anthologies and journals in the United States and in Europe. She appears frequently at the screening of her films and lectures on the impact of the intersections of oppressions. She also facilitates workshops on the process of making grassroots social change documentaries across the United States and in several Western and Eastern European countries.

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Coalition

A Look at Guam's Response to Sexual Assault

By Christine Payne
Healing Hearts Crisis Center

In September 2005, under the leadership of the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse - Healing Hearts Crisis Center (DMHSA - HHCC), Guam's Sexual Assault Coalition released its "Community Needs Assessment Report on Sexual Assault". This report was written over the course of a year in which various governmental and non-governmental entities collaborated to collect data on sexual assault on Guam, identify gaps and strengths in the provision of services to victims of sexual assault, and prioritize the areas of need to improve upon.

As indicated in the report, the statistics regarding sexual assault in Guam are alarming. Within calendar years 2000-2002, rape is the highest reported violent crime amongst murder, robbery and aggravated assault. Even more alarming is the fact that for the majority of these cases, children are the victims. Over the last four years, HHCC has provided services to over 396 victims of sexual assault. Of that number, over 75% of the 396 cases involved children under the age of 18 years old. Furthermore, in 2004, Child Protective Services (CPS) received over 208 reports of sexual assault allegations involving minors.

These numbers are frightening for an island whose total population is about 150,000 people. It is even more alarming when you take into account

the fact that these numbers are very likely under-estimated since many assaults go unreported. Keeping in mind that the voices of many victims often go unheard, the Coalition took great steps to obtain input from both victims who reported their assault to law enforcement officials and from those that did not. Surveys were conducted throughout the island to gather the victims' perspective of the island's response to them as sexual assault survivors. Results of the surveys are included in the report.

Additionally, surveys were also conducted with service providers and these results were included in the report along with an Inventory of existing services. After consideration of the statistics, survey results, and many meetings held by the Coalition, the report identified several priorities to focus on:

- Community Education/Outreach
- Training/Technical Assistance
- Child Advocacy
- Collaboration with Faith-based Organizations
- Collaboration with Guam Public School System, Department of Defense Education Administration, and Private Schools
- Cultural Competency in regards to Ethnicity, Social Class, Religion, etc.
- Revision of Current Inter-agency Memorandums of Understanding

At this current time, Guam is in the process of developing a dual sexual assault/domestic violence coalition. With this change comes a change in the Coalition membership to include non-governmental entities (the Coalition is currently comprised of mostly governmental agencies since they are the main service provider). While the Coalition is going through organizational changes, it is currently focusing its energy on completing the formal policies and procedures for a Sexual Assault Response Team (SART). The projected completion date of the SART policies and procedures is

Surveys were conducted throughout the island to gather the victims' perspective of the island's response to them as sexual assault survivors.

September 30, 2006. For a copy of the *Community Needs Assessment Report: Guam's Response to Sexual Assault Survivors*, contact Christine Payne, at (671)647-5351 or via email at chpayne@mail.gov.gu.



Vermont Without Sexual Violence

What Would It Look Like?

What Would Have to Change?

By Chani Waterhouse
Vermont Network Against Domestic
& Sexual Violence

These were some of the heady questions that a group of us pondered last December, holed up for the day at a Strategic Planning Summit. We were a diverse group tasked with thinking together about what would be required to dramatically reduce sexual violence in Vermont in the foreseeable future. As one male colleague said, "We think of men's violence in the same way that we think about the weather: it's going to rain, so we'd better get out our raincoats, boots and umbrellas." On that day in December we were to imagine something different: that it was possible to stop the rain from falling.

The Vermont Approach: A Strategic Plan for Comprehensive, Collaborative Sexual Violence Prevention 2006-2010 was completed in January of this year. The plan synthesizes the best thinking from that day in December, as well as wisdom gathered from a year's worth of research and the input of many diverse stakeholders from around the state. The plan hums with the energy and intention of all who contributed to it and share its mission: to transform those aspects of culture that produce, exacerbate and take for granted sexual violence.

By strange and painful coincidence, early January in Vermont also saw a high-profile sexual violence case, involving a widely condemned ruling by Vermont District Court Judge Edward Cashman. The controversy over

Cashman's ruling ensured that suddenly everyone in Vermont was talking about sexual violence. Sensible, comprehensive suggestions for how to prevent it were at a premium, especially for legislators, and The Vermont Approach provided some badly-needed answers to their questions.

Governor Douglas agreed to co-host a meeting for policy-makers from the legislature, state agencies and non-profits, at which more than 50 people (a big turnout for our small state!) were introduced to *The Vermont Approach* and asked to commit their agency to the work outlined therein. Legislation passed this session in response to the Cashman case, and it includes some of the activities in our plan.

The activities laid out in *The Vermont Approach* are powerful because they make so much sense, and even more so, because they represent the best thinking from many of Vermont's best thinkers on the subject. How will *The Vermont Approach* change our landscape? Here are some highlights:

- Create a statewide network of stakeholders and allies who can coordinate efforts, share resources, increase the capacity of local coordinated community responses to sexual violence, and mobilize to promote sexual violence prevention locally and at the state level.

The Vermont Approach

A Strategic Plan for Comprehensive, Collaborative Sexual Violence Prevention 2006 - 2010, written by Susan E. Roche, Ph.D., M.S.S.W., was released this year, the result of a collaboration between the Vermont Department of Health, the Vermont Network Against Domestic and Sexual Violence and the Anti-Violence Partnership: A Community Collaboration at the University of Vermont.

- Create a Media Plan that includes activities such as conducting polling and focus groups; developing and enhancing relationships with key media; and carrying out targeted media campaigns.

- Partner with men's groups to create a social norms mentoring project for boys and young men at high risk for perpetrating sexual violence.

- Develop a population-specific, comprehensive, popular education plan.

- Create a statewide comprehensive educational response team which is prepared to respond to high-profile cases and other opportunities for education and intervention, providing assistance to the full spectrum of organizations and entities impacted by or responding to sexual violence.

- Bring together researchers, practitioners, policy makers and funders to complete collaborative research and evaluation projects that support sexual violence prevention.

- Integrate sexual violence prevention into schools' curricula throughout all grade levels.

- Develop a broad-based, coordinated funding plan that integrates business partnership, foundation, grant and governmental funding strategies.

The Vermont Approach has already had a positive impact on public policy in Vermont, joining and amplifying voices for change, and harnessing grief, anger and good intentions to drive cultural transformation. For more information, call 802-223-1302 or email Natasha at nsen@vtnetwork.org.



Rape and Sexual Assault Reporting Laws

By
Teresa Scalzo, JD¹

The following article, is excerpted from a piece that appeared in [The Voice](#) (Vol 1 No 3), publication of the National Center for the Prosecution of Violence Against Women, American Prosecutors Research Institute (APRI). Developed from a larger report (cited below), this article offers insight on reporting laws, in part because various state statutes and reporting requirements could impact chances for STOP funding under VAWA 2005. The author separates statutes into four categories and provides the state names and codes that fall into each group. This excerpt does not include the listings of these states and codes, but instead refers you to the article or the full report: [Rape and Sexual Assault Reporting Requirements for Competent Adult Victims](#).

The report contains the full text of all state statutes as well as a discussion of the issues that may be encountered when interpreting the statutes. For a copy of this report you may email ncpvaw@ndaa-apri.org or call NCPVAW at 703-549-9222.

Many states require medical personnel to make a report to law enforcement and/or social services following treatment of a child, elderly person or vulnerable adult who was the victim of a crime. Although most states do not *per se* require medical personnel to make a report when they have treated a rape victim who is a competent adult,² other state statutes may have the impact of requiring that a report be made. Laws regulating medical personnel's reporting of their treatment of a competent, adult rape victim can be broken down into the following categories:³ (1) laws that specifically require medical professionals to report treatment of a rape victim to law enforcement; (2) laws that require the reporting of injuries that may include rape; (3) laws relating to other crimes or injuries which may impact rape and sexual assault reporting; and (4) laws regarding sexual assault forensic examinations which may impact rape and sexual assault reporting.⁴ This article discusses each of the four categories of rape reporting statutes.⁵

LAWS THAT MANDATE RAPE REPORTING

California is the only state that explicitly requires medical personnel to report their treatment of a competent, adult rape victim.⁶ In Kentucky, rape must be reported to the Kentucky

Cabinet for Family and Children when the rape also constitutes domestic violence.⁷ Massachusetts requires medical personnel to report to the Criminal History System Board and to the police that they have treated a rape victim; however, the report cannot include the victim's name, address or any other identifying information.⁸

LAWS THAT MANDATE THE REPORTING OF INJURIES WHICH MAY INCLUDE RAPE

Laws that require the reporting of injuries which may include rape fall into two categories: (1) laws that require non-accidental or intentional injuries to be reported and (2) laws that require injuries caused by criminal conduct or violence to be reported. The question that arises in these states is whether a rape must be reported when the patient has suffered no injury other than the rape itself.

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO OTHER CRIMES OR INJURIES WHICH MAY IMPACT VICTIMS OF RAPE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT

The third category of mandatory reporting statutes that may impact competent, adult rape victims includes statutes that require various types of injuries caused by crimes other than rape to be reported. If a rape victim

presents with any of these injuries, medical personnel are required to report the injury to law enforcement. These injuries include injuries caused by firearms, stab wounds or non-accidental wounds caused by a knife or sharp pointed instrument, injuries caused with a deadly weapon and burns, among others.

STATUTES ADDRESSING PAYMENT FOR FORENSIC SEXUAL ASSAULT EXAMINATIONS

The Violence Against Women Act precludes states from receiving STOP funding⁹ unless the state or unit of local government incurs the full out-of-pocket costs of forensic medical examinations for victims of sexual assault. Many states have enacted statutes that impose requirements in order for the cost of the examination to be covered.¹⁰ For example, a number of states have statutes that require that rape be reported to law enforcement before a victim may receive a forensic sexual assault examination without cost to the victim. Some have additional requirements such as time limits for the performance of the examination or cooperation with law enforcement. VAWA III¹¹ calls the practice of requiring victims to report to law enforcement into question. It states: "Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit a State, Indian

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Sexual Assault Reporting Laws

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tribal government, or territorial government to require a victim of sexual assault to participate in the criminal justice system or cooperate with law enforcement in order to be provided with a forensic medical exam, reimbursement for charges incurred on account of such an exam, or both."¹² (Notably, victim cannot be denied medical treatment regardless of what the requirements are with respect to forensic evidence collection.)

Rape reporting statutes may be interpreted differently by hospitals, medical providers or courts. When working with victims, prosecutors and other allied professionals should remember that the possibility always exists that the rape could be reported due to these varying interpretations. Ideally, questions about reporting requirements should be resolved before a rape victim is sitting in an emergency room; communities, therefore, should address question with Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) or in Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) protocols.



NOTES

¹ Ms. Scalzo is the Director of APRI's National Center for the Prosecution of Violence Against Women.

² Please refer to state law for definitions or interpretations of what constitutes a competent adult in a given state.

³ The terms rape and sexual assault are used interchangeably in this document. For specific definitions of rape and sexual assault, please refer to state law.

⁴ The purpose of this article is to provide an overview of the issues that may arise with respect to mandatory requirements. The article is not intended as legal advice. Work with local attorneys to insure that their interpretation of relevant law is correct.

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NSVRC to Oversee Directory

(Continued from page 1)

The NSVRC commends VSDVAA for their work to connect centers across the country and provides the following historical sketch of their labors over the past ten years.

History of the Directory

A National Directory of Sexual Assault Crisis Centers came into being in 1997. Pat Groot, former and founding Director of Virginians Aligned Against Sexual Assault (VAASA), the Virginia state sexual assault coalition, was actively involved in engaging sexual assault coalitions in national dialogue. As part of that work a directory was developed to connect all the state sexual assault programs. Additionally, Virginia's sexual assault programs expressed a need for state-to-state contact information. Programs routinely worked with victims who were from--or were moving to--other states, and those victims wanted to receive continued support. Virginia's programs wanted to be able to provide that information and the National Directory was created in response to that need.

In 1998, Kathy Scheurenbrand Pierce of VAASA took charge of the production of the second issue of the National Directory. She managed the publication and distribution of the directory through its' ninth edition in 2005. The demand for the Directory remained substantial over the years, with requests coming from virtually every state as well as from countries abroad.

The initial challenges were to inform programs throughout the country about the directory, develop a way of

gathering information about program changes, and a way for programs to order the directory. In the first year, the work of promoting and maintaining the directory was done the hard way. A packet of information was created and sent to programs; it included a cover letter, a form for directory updates, and an order form for the next year's directory.

By the second year the process was streamlined. All state sexual assault coalitions were contacted by email or phone, and a request was made that they consistently inform VAASA of changes to their programs so that the directory would be as accurate as possible.

In 2004, VAASA joined forces with Virginians Against Domestic Violence to become the Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance (VSDVAA). The newly reorganized coalition considered the best way to continue the Directory. At about the same time the National Sexual Violence Resource Center expressed its interest in maintaining the project.

Updates and Orders

The NSVRC encourages centers to submit changes either online at www.nsvrc.org/directory/ or through a fax form available in the back of the directory. Orders can be placed online or by calling the NSVRC at 877-739-3895.



Focus on Prevention

Minnesota's Strategies to Prevent Sexual Violence

By
Amy Okaya, Program Coordinator
Injury and Violence Prevention Unit Minnesota Department of Health

Our ability to understand and prevent sexual violence calls us all to access and activate existing data and research, professional and community wisdom, and our collective commitment to change. Following are some examples and results of prevention approaches that Minnesota has developed to address this calling over the past nine years.

A Public Health Approach to Sexual Violence

In order to describe a public health approach to sexual violence, the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) developed *A Place to Start: A Resource Kit for Preventing Sexual Violence*. Based on extensive interviews and community-based research, the Kit provides information and examples of prevention activities tailored to different sectors of the community. User-friendly educational handouts and tools in the Kit can easily be photocopied and distributed. Available in hard copy and on the web, the Kit has become one of the most widely-accessed resources of its kind in the world.

Building Bridges Among the Passionate

Discovering a diversity of people eager to prevent sexual violence in Minnesota, the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault (MNCASA), MDH and the Minnesota Department of Public Safety decided to convene a statewide network to support information sharing, networking and collaboration. Now in its 8th year, the Sexual Violence Prevention Network holds quarterly meetings around the state on special prevention topics. Members of the Network also receive E-News on research, conferences, job openings, etc. A recent survey of members indicates the majority find the Network helps them broaden their understanding of sexual violence prevention, identify specific information and

tools, make contact with people helpful to them in their work, meet people from other fields with whom they don't normally have contact, and feel inspired and encouraged in their prevention work.

Improving our Data

In 2000, a CDC grant to MDH to improve surveillance of intimate partner violence provided a unique opportunity to simultaneously develop Minnesota's sexual violence surveillance system. By examining how hospitals most often code cases of sexual assault, and by reviewing medical records, we now have a clearer picture of how many cases of sexual assault are being treated by Minnesota hospitals each year, and how those numbers compare to other data sources. In addition, by conducting a statewide telephone survey, we were able to gain a sense of the proportion and characteristics of women among the general population who seek hospital care for sexual assault, compared to those who do not.

Partnerships to Strengthen Prevention

Minnesota has an ongoing history of communication and collaboration around the issue of sexual violence prevention, however many opportunities still exist to connect with natural prevention allies. To promote increased collaboration for prevention, MDH funded "Partnership Grants" between local sexual assault programs/MNCASA, and other prevention-oriented organizations. These grants sought to integrate awareness of sexual violence with other key health promotion efforts likely to reduce the risk for perpetration -- specifically in the areas of child/youth development, gender socialization, nonviolence, and/or sexual behavior -- and to strengthen the connections between partnering organizations and the services they provide. Grantees worked together to

(Continued on next page)

Minnesota's Strategies

(Continued from previous page)

identify and measure shared outcomes across projects, and demonstrated positive changes in prevention-related knowledge, intention and action among the diverse target audiences. In addition, the impact of partnerships was assessed using qualitative and quantitative tools. Partnerships resulted in policy and protocol change, increased collaboration, greater integration of prevention programming, increased resources, increased referrals and visibility, and a broadening of participants' perspectives.

Engaging Key Groups to Make a Difference

In 2005 and 2006 prevention efforts focused on building capacity among three strategic groups. Prevention Specialists have been working to educate and organize youth development/teen pregnancy prevention practitioners, men who lead groups of men and boys, and the health care sector. These efforts emphasize creating sustainable change by impacting professional education systems, organizational practices and public policy. New initiatives associated with this work include the formation of the Minnesota Men's Action Network (MN MAN), a sexual violence prevention training curriculum for youth workers, and the development of professional and organizational tools for the health care sector to promote healthy relationships.

Speaking with One Voice

As more and more Minnesotans appreciate the need for primary prevention of sexual violence, there has been an increasing need to develop a common understanding and language related to prevention. *Minnesota's Working Framework for the Primary Prevention of Sexual Violence* is a document that reflects an ongoing process to collectively describe and define sexual violence, and important ways to prevent it. Furthermore, the Prevention Institute of Oakland, California has been providing training and technical assistance on primary prevention, helping develop unified prevention leadership in the state. In 2006, all MNCASA programs are receiving this training.

For more information on these and other activities and resources, please visit the MDH Sexual Violence Prevention Program website at www.health.state.mn.us/svp



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There has been an increasing need to develop a common understanding and language related to prevention.

Police Training in Indian Country

(Continued from page 3)

impart a complete understanding of Indian ways, but stressed the importance of learning as much as possible about cultural differences because it can make a big difference in the case. Consistently the presentation offered information and engaged discussions about native value and history that sent a clear message of its importance.

Those who attended the session in North Dakota included tribal police, non-tribal police from the Bismarck area, a tribal judge, several tribal prosecutors, advocates and others. Their involvement was impressive and they offered many positive comments about the training.

Clearly responding effectively and sensitively to violent victimization of women in Indian Country requires our continued commitment to recognize and develop programs and initiatives that can make a positive difference. These trainings by the FLETC offer a good opportunity to gain a deeper understanding on responding to violence against women in Indian Country. They also fostered positive relationships, indeed, 'new bridges' between the police, advocates, prosecutors and others. For more information on this program contact Alex Graves at Federal Law Enforcement Training Center: alex.graves@dhs.gov.



National Crime Victim Service Award Presented

(Continued from page 1)

the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, and as Chair of the Victim Services Advisory Council. Rumburg has served as Executive Director of PCAR since 1995.

Noteworthy among her service at the national level is Rumburg's appointment by Secretary of Defense, Donald Rumsfeld, to the Department of Defense Task Force on Sexual Harassment and Violence at the Military Service Academies; she served as Co-chair of that Task Force.

The Office of Victims of Crime (OVC), a component of the Office of Justice Programs with the Department of Justice, annually sponsors this ceremony and coordinates the submissions and nominations. The prestigious event includes presentations of various award categories to deserving individuals and programs.



NSVRC National Awards *(Continued from page 7)*

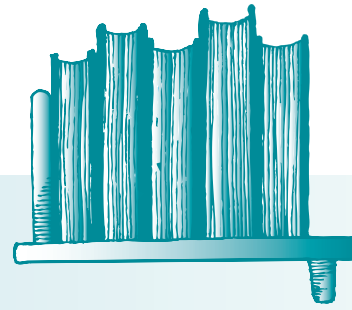
Corporate

WRKO Radio 680 AM Scott Allen Miller

Scott Allen Miller and WRKO Radio 680 in Boston MA have contributed to the responsible reporting of sexual violence and have demonstrated a commitment to violence prevention. Not only have they raised public awareness about sexual violence, but they have publicized available services and resources in their community and provided voice and advocacy for victims through radio broadcast.

Mr. Miller has demonstrated a commitment to raising community awareness of sex offenders, child sexual assault, internet predators, and promoting conversations among family members. He has involved victims/survivors, parents, communities, and many organizations in discussions around sexual violence prevention and has worked collectively with legislators, community leaders and law enforcement. Mr. Miller has demonstrated ongoing commitment to legislative issues, including the Sex Offender Omnibus bill and civil commitment legislation in 2004. Mr. Miller is known for his willingness to talk about subjects that others may wish to leave in the dark, and to spark conversation with listeners on important issues.





From the Book Shelf

Reporting Sexual Assault: A Social Ecology Perspective

By Kim S. Ménard

Because sexual assault is among the least reported of all crimes, understanding just when and under what circumstances sexual assault victims will report an assault has been a persistent challenge. With this book Ménard offers us insight, focus, and her considerable research findings; she employs a social ecology perspective that recognizes human behavior as being multiply determined by factors at different levels. She examines the effects of individual and contextual factors on victims' decision to contact the police. She found that at the individual level, the odds of the victim contacting the police were greater when the assault was severe or was committed by a stranger. However, even severe assaults by known offenders were unlikely to be reported. The book is published by LFB Scholarly Publishing LLC Price: \$60.

Strong At The Heart: How it feels to heal from sexual abuse.

By Carolyn Lehman

This book offers the reader the voices and strengths of nine survivors of childhood sexual abuse - teens and adults. Victims of abuse, incest, trauma, abduction, and stranger and acquaintance rape, these survivors share their experiences and the ways they found to heal. Laura Davis calls it a powerful book filled with distinct, diverse voices. She says that "with remarkable honesty they tell how they stopped feeling victimized and reclaimed their lives." This book is about how they discovered inner strength and enlarged their own capacity for love and joy. Photographs speckle the pages of this book adding visual texture to the stories. The book is published by Melanie Kroupa Books; Farrar, Straus and Giroux: \$16.



NOTES (Continued from page 11)

⁵ Note that some medical personnel may interpret statutes differently than this article. For example, some providers in Oklahoma interpret 10 Okl. St. § 7104 as requiring a report to be made when the victim is a competent adult. However, the statute appears in Chapter 71 of Title 10, which is Oklahoma's Child Abuse Reporting and Prevention Act; therefore, it does not mandate that a report be made when the victim is a competent adult.

⁶ Cal Pen Code § 11160.

⁷ KRS § 209.030.

⁸ ALM GL ch. 112, § 12A1/2.

⁹ The STOP (Services - Training - Officers - Prosecutors) Violence Against Women Formula Grant Program. 28 C.F.R. § 90.14.

¹⁰ Note that these statutes should only impact victims when payment is an issue; therefore, they should not be an issue for military members. However, a hospital primarily accustomed to dealing with civilian victims may have a protocol in place that automatically results in a report being made. Therefore, this issue should be addressed when drafting Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) and / or creating Sexual Assault Response Teams (SARTs).

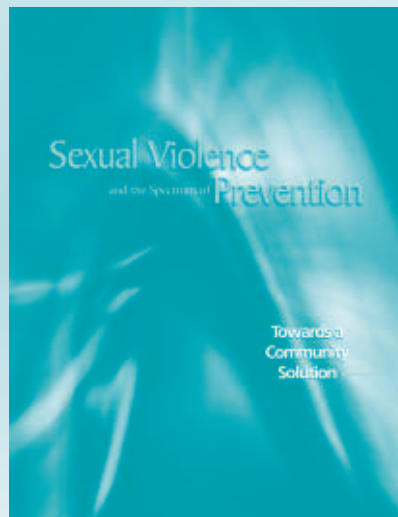
¹¹ H.R. 3402.

¹² H.R. 3402, sec. 101(f). This language will be added to 42 U.S.C. 3796gg-4.

Sexual Violence and the Spectrum of Prevention

Now Available

This new booklet focusing on a multi-level approach to sexual violence prevention is available either by calling the NSVRC at 877-739-3895 or by visiting our website: www.nsvrc.org.



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NSVRC
NATIONAL SEXUAL VIOLENCE RESOURCE CENTER
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