



FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES!

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SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES

SANEs Earn International Board Certification

In the field of healthcare, board certification demonstrates an individual's knowledge, skill, and commitment to delivering the highest standard of care in the clinical setting. The Forensic Nursing Certification Board (FNCB) of the International Association of Forensic Nurses (IAFN) has developed and administers board certification examinations for Nurse Examiners in the specialty areas of Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner-Adult/Adolescent (SANE-A) and Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner-Pediatrics (SANE-P). Becoming Board-Certified is a statement that the Nurse Examiner has accepted the challenge of preparing for and passing a rigorous examination demonstrating refined knowledge and critical thinking skills in clinical practice. Although board certification is NOT required to practice as a SANE in most states (including Michigan), many nurses choose to become board certified for the reasons noted previously.

Nurse Examiners seeking board certification apply to the FNCB by completing a rigorous application process, which includes the documentation of successful completion of specific educational requirements and experience in the care of sexual

assault/abuse patients. Nurse Examiners must have a minimum of 1-year SANE experience to apply for the SANE-A examination. Additional education and experience is required for the Nurse Examiner applying to take the SANE-P examination. It is also of interest to note, FNCB is the ONLY health professional organization to offer certification (international!) for health care providers in the specialty of sexual abuse care of patients.

Our SANE program had two Nurse Examiners taking board certification examinations on October 11, 2008 in Lansing, MI. Sherri Brainerd, RN, BSN took the SANE-A examination and Phyllis Van Order, RN, SANE-A, the SANE-P examination. Sherri has been a SANE in our program since June 2005 and is a member of IAFN, the MI Chapter of IAFN and has provided SANE education to nurses for the last three years. She demonstrates a very high level of professional nursing knowledge while providing compassionate care to those she serves. Phyllis is our SANE program coordinator and has been with our program for 12 years. She is SANE-A board certified, a member of IAFN, a founding member of the MI Chapter of IAFN, SANE educa-

tional course coordinator, and SANE program mentor to numerous programs/individuals in Michigan.

In November, both Sherri and Phyllis received notification from the FNCB they had successfully passed their board certification examinations. Sherri will add the credential SANE-A after her name to demonstrate she is a Board-Certified Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner-Adult/Adolescent. Phyllis will add SANE-P after her name as a Board-Certified Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner-Pediatric. We are very proud of the professional accomplishments of our nurse examiners and commend them for their efforts in becoming board certified in their specialty, which is a testament to their commitment to provide the highest quality of care for our patients.

Board Certified Nurse Examiners in our program:

Sherri Brainerd, RN, BSN, SANE-A

Donna Lawrence, RN, SANE-A

Laurie Sweet, RN, SANE-A

Phyllis VanOrder, RN, SANE-A, SANE-P

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Letter from the director...



Greetings Friends,

In the past year, over 1,000 people have sought services at Sexual Assault Services of Calhoun County. Many of these are victims of child sexual abuse, either young children themselves, their non-offending care-givers, or adults who come to us years later in search of support and healing.

2008 has been eventful, most especially with our new Battle Creek Children's Advocacy Center opening. This accomplishment represents a major expansion of the community commitment to serving child victims of sexual assault. We are truly grateful for the many donations and gifts of time that we received to make this possible.

During this extremely challenging economic time, we continue to have some services for children that are not paid for through our grant funding. We need funds to pay for medical/forensic examinations for child victims of recent sexual assault. This is a critical service offered by our highly specialized, expert Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner program. Supplies and materials for child and adult counseling and the Children's Advocacy Center operation are also needed.

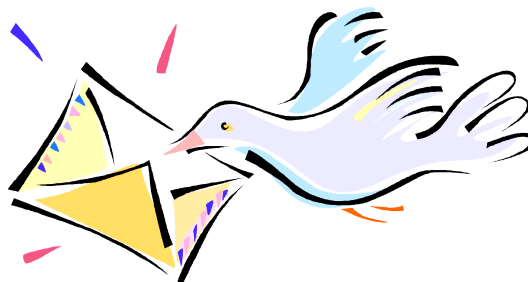
If you are able to make a donation, please utilize the enclosed envelope. All donations are 100% tax deductible. (Tax Exempt I.D. #: 38-2776791)

Peace and joy to you during the holiday season and for 2009!!

Joyce Siegel

Program Director

"We are truly grateful for the many donations and gifts of time that we received toward the new CAC to make this possible."



We appreciate your donations!

Please use the enclosed envelope if you would like to help provide services to survivors of sexual assault.

CAC Expands Services

The Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) of SAS is pleased to announce that beginning October 1, 2008 they will be able to offer expanded services and hours of operation.

Stacy Kromdyk, already a part-time employee of the CAC, will begin her new role as a full time Family Advocate on October 1st. Stacy is looking forward to implementing a Family Advocate

Program that will provide a wider range of services that will allow a more personable in-depth method of assisting the children and their families.

Additionally, several years ago during a period of decreased monies, our program looked at ways to become more cost-effective and made the decision to work only Monday-Thursday (with Tuesday being a half

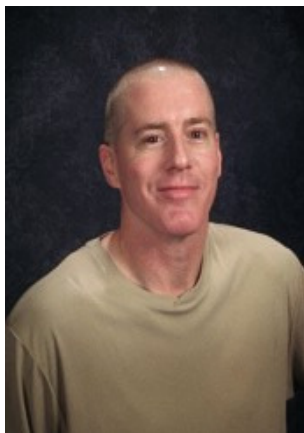
day). Now, with the increased funding we are once again able to serve our families and our team members consistently throughout the week.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Maria or Stacy at 269-660-3835.



"It is important we recognize Scott, as well as other school administrators, for genuinely caring about the safety of children, despite the uncomfortable and challenging nature of the subject."

SAS Highlights Harper Creek Social Worker



Scott Glass, MSW, Harper Creek Middle and Sonoma Elementary School's Social Worker, is being highlighted by Sexual Assault Services for being a consistent supporter of SAS's prevention programs for several years. Throughout the time Scott has been a social worker at Harper Creek Schools, he has scheduled presentations that address safe vs. un-

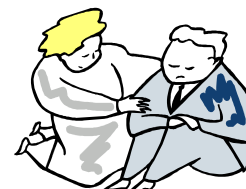
safe touches and anti-bullying during each school year. It is important we recognize Scott, as well as other school administrators, for genuinely caring about the safety of children, despite the uncomfortable and challenging nature of the subject. On behalf of SAS, we'd like to say "thank you Scott and we appreciate you!"

Congratulations To Victim Advocates!

Congratulations to the following volunteers who successfully completed 30 hours of Sexual Assault Services Volunteer Advocacy Training this fall!

- Elizabeth Culp
- Kara Draves
- Lindi Edger
- Lisa Fields
- Sarah Fitzpatrick
- Lucille Hackworth
- Bev Issacs
- Jill Olson
- Trena Philo
- Mark Scheffers
- Szenoria Smith
- Sasha Steigerwalt
- Amanda Thurman

Volunteer advocates provide support to survivors of sexual assault and their families. We at SAS would like to thank all of our volunteers; your support and dedication means so much to us all!



If interested in scheduling presentations for your classroom or group, please contact Elishae Johnson, MA, LLPC at (269)660-3904 or email johnsoes@trinity-health.org for a brochure of education programs.

All SAS services are free of charge.

SEXUAL ASSAULT SERVICES

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Battle Creek Health System is a major partner with Sexual Assault Services, donating space and in-kind services, making Sexual Assault Services a Health System, by the **Michigan Crime Victim Services Commission**. The agreement award of \$279,411.00 department of Battle Creek Health System. This project is funded by Grant No. 20448-12V06 awarded to Battle Creek (80%) of the project, comes from the Federal Crime Victims Fund, established by the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 administered by the Office of Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The Battle Creek Health System provides the required match valued at \$69,853.00 by the use of volunteers. Sexual Assault Services wishes to thank the **Michigan Domestic Violence Prevention and Treatment Board** for their financial support of this project. This project was supported by Grant No. 99-WF-NX-0026 by the **Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice (STOP GRANT)**. Sexual Assault Services receives a full-membership grant from the **National Children's Alliance**. Sexual Assault Services also receives in-kind support from **Oaklawn Hospital** and **Play Care Learning Center(s)** in Marshall, and **St. Thomas Episcopal Church**, Battle Creek. Sexual Assault Services is a **United Way of Greater Battle Creek Agency**. Sexual Assault Services is supported by **The W. K. Kellogg Foundation**. Other current funding sources include: **The Battle Creek Community Foundation**, **The Marshall Community Foundation**, **The Marshall United Way**, **The Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Council**. Donations have been received from: **The Marshall Exchange Club**, **Crossroads Church and Ministries**, **The Battle Creek Exchange Club**, **The National Exchange Club Trust Fund**, **Zion Lutheran Church**, **Marshall, First Congregational Church (Battle Creek)**, **The Traveling Golf League**, and Many Generous Individuals and Organizations. *Assistance is available to Victims of Crime who wish to apply for Crime Victims Compensation.*



We're on the web!
Visit us at www.sascc.net

Traveling Golf League Gives Generous Donation



In the Photo: L to R (unless otherwise noted, SAS staff), Maureen McNamara, Dannielle Kostrab, Mike Beck (HBC Contracting), Mark Scheffers (SAS intern from WMU), Alicia Beck (HBC Contracting), Alison Yarger, Elishae Johnson, Pam Buchko, Amber Depuydt, Joyce Siegel, Linda Nycum (SAS intern from Spring Arbor U), Tim Nycum (Traveling Golf League), Maria Markos, & Stacy Kromdyk.

Sexual Assault Services of Calhoun County would like to thank the Traveling Golf League for the generous donation of \$1360.00. Their donation is very important to us in our work to assist victims of sexual assault and raise awareness of this issue in our community. This donation will be used to provide services for children and youth that are not covered by grants or other funds, specifically medical/forensic examinations for children under age 13.

We appreciate your support !