

April 2016

The Advocate

The Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center Newsletter

PREVENTION
is possible

Sexual Assault
Awareness Month #SAAM

**Sexual
Assault
Awareness
Month**

Laura Roberson

Court Advocate

We can build strong communities that challenge victim-blaming and model healthy relationships. April is recognized as National Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM), this year's message is focusing on the building blocks of prevention. The 2016 national campaign seeks to encourage and empower individuals, communities, and the private sector to take action in promoting safety, respect and equality.

The thought of sexual violence occurring in our community, is not something many of us want to know about or even think about. The reality is, sexual violence is happening in our community and impacts everyone. It affects individuals, families, communities and society as a whole. As a community we can come together and change the conditions that contribute to sexual violence and its misconceptions.



Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center

What is sexual violence?

"Sexual violence is any type of unwanted sexual contact. This can include words and actions of a sexual nature against a person's will and without their consent. Consent is voluntary, mutual, and can be withdrawn at any time. Reasons someone might not consent include fear, age, illness, disability, and/or influence of alcohol or other drugs. A person may use force, threats, manipulation, or coercion to commit sexual violence. Anyone can experience sexual violence, including children, teens, adults, and elders. Those who sexually abuse can be acquaintances, family members, trusted individuals, or strangers."



**DENIM
DAY**

April 27, 2016

Show your support for survivors!

Forms of sexual violence:

- * Rape or sexual assault
- * Child sexual assault and incest
- * Sexual assault by a person's spouse or partner
- * Unwanted sexual contact/touching
- * Sexual harassment
- * Sexual exploitation and trafficking
- * Exposing one's genitals or naked body to other(s) without consent
- * Masturbating in public
- * Watching someone in private acts, without their knowledge or permission

(National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey: 2010 summary report. Retrieved from the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, CDC and Prevention).

We all have an important part in creating our community culture. The national SAAM campaign reminds us that sexual violence is preventable; victims are never at fault. Prevention includes supporting survivors of sexual violence and challenging any victim-blaming. We can strive to have a community of empathy, respect and equality. For more information and materials of the 2016 campaign, please visit www.nsvrc.org.

To conclude National Sexual Assault Awareness Month, please join us on April 29th as we come together as a community and **Take Back the Night**. This annual event, is made possible by community leaders and supporters against sexual violence. The location will be at Fairmount Park, 1647 N. Yale Blvd, in Wichita. The event begins at 7PM with a community fair including resources, food and entertainment. Rally and survivor circle will follow. Please see the flyer in this newsletter for more information. This event is free and open to all.

April Lunch and Learn

What is Rape Culture?

Media, society, and even politicians give us a daily dose of rape culture. Rape culture is a term defined to show the ways in which society blames survivors of sexual assault and normalizes sexual violence. Rape culture creates an environment which not only validates, but perpetuates rape.

The goal of this session will be to learn what rape culture looks like, sounds like, and feels like. Bring your lunch as we discuss current events that exemplify rape culture, and learn ways we can make an impact for change.

Hosted by: Perla Rodriguez, Coordinator of Program Services
Location: 355 N Waco, Suite 100, 67202

WASAC Calendar of Events

April 20: 6:00-8:00 p.m.
Protective Parenting Program
(court approved)

April 26: 12:00-1:00 p.m.
WASAC Lunch and Learn
What is Rape Culture?

April 29: 7:00 p.m.
Take Back the Night
@ Fairmount Park

May 1: 5:30-9:30 p.m.
WASAC Charity Event: SALSA
@ Public at the Brickyard

All Free & Confidential
316-263-0185



FAIRMOUNT PARK

T A K E B A C K
T H E
N I G H T

APRIL 29TH

7PM - 9PM

7 PM FOOD - MUSIC - COMMUNITY FAIR

8 PM SURVIVOR'S CIRCLE

OPEN TO ALL

WICHITA AREA SEXUAL ASSAULT CENTER





Join us for SALSA 2016!

A charity event benefiting the
Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center

When: May 1st from 5:30-9:30 p.m.

Where: Public @ the Brickyard

Tickets are \$75 and will be \$100 at the door.
\$75 includes your food, drinks, and party at SALSA 2016.

Visit www.wichitasac.com for ticket information or call us today!

355 N. Waco, Suite 100, Wichita, KS 67202

316.263.0185



Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center

2016



Free and open to all! No RSVP required.

Bring your lunch and join us from 12-1 p.m. on the last Tuesday of each month to learn more about the reality of sexual violence in our community.

January 26	Supporting Disclosures
February 23	Rape in Detention: It's not the penalty
March 29	Sexual Violence against Men and Boys
April 26	What is Rape Culture?
May 31	Sexual Violence in the Latino Population
June 28	LGB-What?: The underrepresented letters within a marginalized acronym
July 26	Trauma-Informed Services
August 30	Sexual Violence against People with Disabilities
September 27	Risk and Benefits of Protection Orders
October 25	Sexual and Domestic Violence: Connections
November 29	Navigating the Criminal Justice System
December 27	Practicing Self Care While Caring for Others

All WASAC Lunch & Learn sessions are held at our office at 355 N Waco, Suite 100. For more information, call (316) 263-0185 or visit us online at www.wichitasac.com.

Gain Experience and Skills While Helping Survivors of Sexual Violence



Become a Volunteer Advocate!

We need volunteers! Our volunteers are extremely important and help us provide critical services to survivors of sexual violence. Our volunteer advocates take shifts on the 24-hour crisis hotline and are available to accompany survivors to hospital exams and police interviews providing emotional support and advocacy. Our new advocate training provides intensive education on the psychological, medical and legal implications of sexual assault, as well as other forms of oppression and how they interconnect in the lives of survivors. Crisis intervention and counseling skills are developed through a series of presentations, discussion, and role playing. During this 40-hour training, WASAC and community partners team up to provide a detailed synopsis of the demand for sexual assault advocacy in Sedgwick County.

After completing the application and screening process, our volunteers are required to attend 1 orientation, the 40-hour training session and complete 2 buddy shifts.

**Volunteers are asked to commit for a minimum of 1 year and sign up for 2 shifts each month.
Volunteers must be 21 years of age.

Upcoming 40-Hour Training Schedule:

When: May 11th-June 2nd, 2016

Evening and Weekend Sessions

Where: 355 N. Waco, Suite 100

For more information, contact Amy at 263-0185 or amy@wichitasac.com
You can also find our volunteer application online at <http://wichitasac.com/volunteer/>



Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center



Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center

Teen girls (age 13-17)

- Support group
Monday, 5:30 - 6:30 pm
- Trauma-sensitive yoga
Monday, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Parents and caregivers

- Support group
Monday, 6:45 - 7:30 pm

Adult women (age 18+)

- Support group
Tuesday, 5:30 - 6:30 pm
- Trauma-sensitive yoga
Tuesday, 6:30 - 7:30 pm

WASAC also offers short-term individual therapy for men, women, and children.

To schedule an appointment, please call our office between 8:30 am and 5:00 pm.

WASAC support groups are confidential, free, and open to survivors at any point in their healing. All groups meet weekly and are open-ended, with no appointment necessary to participate. At this time, child care is not available.

WASAC office

355 N Waco,
Suite 100

SW corner of 3rd/Waco

316-263-0185