

# SERVICES AVAILABLE FROM THE WICHITA AREA SEXUAL ASSAULT CENTER

24-Hour Crisis Counseling

Information and Referral

One-on-one short-term crisis counseling

Support Groups

– Adult Female Victims

– Adolescent Female Victims

– Parents & Significant Others

One-to-one support through the medical and legal systems

Education and Prevention Information

- All of the above services are free and confidential.

## FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

### IMPORTANT NUMBERS

**Court Advocate/WASAC (316) 263–0185**

---

**24-Hour Crisis Line (316) 263-3002**

---

**Investigator/Detective**

---

**District Attorney's Office**

---

**Case #:** \_\_\_\_\_



Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center

355 North Waco, Suite 100

Wichita, Kansas 67202-1115

“This grant project is funded or partially funded by the Federal Victims of Crime Act awarded by the Federal Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs of the U.S. Department of Justice as administered by Kathleen Sebelius, Governor of Kansas. The opinions, findings and conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this publication, program, or exhibition are those of the author (s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Office of the Governor or the U.S. Department of Justice.”

# COURT ADVOCACY SUPPORT SERVICE

The Court Advocate (CA) for the Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center (WASAC) can help you connect with resources you need as well as providing

advocacy during

the legal and

court process. It

is the goal of the

Court Advocate to

contact all those

seen at the

hospital. They are available to assist victims as they move through the legal system.



CA's can answer questions you have about:

- ◆ Compensation for crime victims.
- ◆ Long term counseling
- ◆ Developing a safety plan

If you wish to be contacted immediately, you can find the office and crisis line numbers on this and other brochures.

For adults, the choice of reporting or not reporting is yours to make. We hope that the brochure “Immediate Help For Victims of Sexual Assault” will assist you in making that decision. Our services are available to you no matter what you decide to do.

All services are free and confidential

## FOLLOW UP

The CA provides follow up for those seen at the hospital by a WASAC advocate. In addition, the CA provides follow-up for those referred to WASAC by law enforcement, court personnel or other agency referrals.

### ***What is the purpose of follow-up?***

The CA contacts victims to offer support in the aftermath of the assault. Part of that process will offer referral information including phone numbers for medical, law enforcement, and other service agencies. CA will make reminders regarding the importance of medical follow-up. The CA will also provide information in reference to additional services offered at WASAC.

### ***How often does the CA contact victims?***

The CA will contact those seen at the hospital who request follow-up. Generally this would be once a week for the first two weeks, then an average of twice a month based on request and availability. Contact with the CA or any other WASAC staff member during office hours (8:30-5:00, M-F) is encouraged.

### ***At what point do follow-up services terminate?***

Follow-up services can be terminated by victims request or at any time. Follow-up calls may no longer be needed when support systems are in place.

## COURT ADVOCACY

The CA provides advocacy during investigative interviews and court proceedings as requested by the survivor.

### ***How can the CA help victims at law enforcement investigative interviews?***

Investigative interviews may be emotional when retelling the specifics of the assault. The CA can be there to provide emotional support.

Law enforcement and court personnel may request the services of the CA. The services are only available with the consent of the survivor.

### ***What is the purpose of advocacy during legal proceedings?***

The CA is available to provide emotional support, as well as to answer basic questions about the court process. The CA encourages the survivor and family members to direct all questions about specific legal matters to the District Attorney's office. Any information shared between the victim and the CA is confidential.

### ***What is the CA's role in the legal process?***

The CA has no legal standing with the courts; however, the CA has basic knowledge of the court process. This knowledge is beneficial to victims in ways that help prepare them emotionally for their role in the legal process.

### ***What if the case does not go to court?***

Certain requirements must be met for a case to be prosecuted. The final decision to prosecute is made by the District Attorney's office. Even when the case is not prosecuted, the CA and WASAC will continue to work with the victim and encourage involvement in support activities as she/he moves from "victim" to "survivor."

### ***What if I live outside Sedgwick County?***

The Wichita Area Sexual Assault Center provides advocacy and other support services for those victimized within Sedgwick County.

Please contact the office to determine what services are available outside of Sedgwick County.

## QUESTIONS

If you have additional questions about court advocacy, victim follow-up, or other services offered by WASAC, please call:

(316) 263-0185

Office hours are 8:30-5:00, Monday-Friday.

In addition, you can access support 24 hours a day through the crisis line at:

(316) 263-3002

Or e-mail [advocate@wichitasac.com](mailto:advocate@wichitasac.com)