Mission

The Support, Advocacy & Resource Center’s (SARC) mission is to provide crisis services, support and advocacy to victims, non-offending family members, and others who are impacted by crime. We strive to create and maintain a community without violence through prevention-based education.

Philosophy Statement

SARC views sexual assault as a means of power, control, and manipulation. Crime adversely affects all members of a community, including both adults and children.

SARC supports the rights of crime victims and strives to see these rights upheld. SARC believes that every victim deserves quality information, advocacy, crisis intervention, and treatment. We support the right of a victim to make choices regarding reporting, prosecution, pregnancy, future safety, and other issues raised by the experience. It is our responsibility to provide prevention education in an effort to create a community free of violence.

SARC is committed to serving all individuals, regardless of race, gender, religion, veteran status, age, ethnic background, socio-economic status, sexual orientation, marital status, physical or mental status.

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Crisis Program

Advocates in the Crisis Program provide services to victims of all non-domestic violence crimes, their non-offending friends and family, and serve as a resource for community members seeking assistance on crime victimization. SARC’s service area includes Benton and Franklin Counties, in Washington State.

SARC provides the following services in the Crisis Program:

**Crisis Line:** SARC’s crisis line is staffed 24 hours a day by trained advocates. Advocates are available to answer questions and provide support. This line also serves as a point of contact for clients who may need immediate emergency assistance.

**Legal and Medical Advocacy:** SARC’s agency staff and trained volunteer advocates respond to hospital calls to provide medical advocacy to victims of crime. We also provide legal advocacy at police interviews and court proceedings. Moral support and information is given to victims, families and friends.

**Crisis Intervention:** Advocates provide short-term crisis intervention, support, and validation for the client's feelings. We often recommend that clients also seek therapy to assist in the healing process.

**Therapy Referrals:** Clients receive assistance in the process of finding a counselor who is experienced in the field of sexual abuse. We also provide information regarding payment options such as sliding fee scales, insurance, and crime victim’s compensation. In addition, SARC provides financial support to clients who would not otherwise be able to seek professional mental health care.

**Library:** SARC has an extensive library containing a multitude of resources (including books and videos), which relate to crime victimization. The library is available to all members of the community at no cost.

**Volunteer Advocates**

SARC relies on volunteer advocates to staff the crisis line and respond to hospital calls when the agency is closed. Without these volunteers, the agency would not be able to provide much needed services 24-hours a day. Each advocate is required to complete 32 hours of training certified through the Washington Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs, in addition to completing 12 hours of on-going training per year. This year SARC offered two 32-hour Core Advocacy Trainings and the following 15 hours of ongoing in-service trainings:

- Children who Have Sexual Behavior Problems
- Safe Harbor/My Friends Place
- Medical Advocacy
- Emergency Contraceptives
- Advanced Crisis Intervention Skills
- Confidentiality, Informed Consent and Releasing Information for Survivors
- Domestic Violence Services
- Eating Disorders
- Cultural Competency Considerations
- Identity Theft
- Incarcerated Sexual Assault Survivors
- Addiction
- Restitution in Criminal Court Cases
- Legal Advocacy
- The Rights of Immigrants in the Legal System

Collectively our volunteers provided 19,100 hours of on-call availability. A huge THANK YOU!!

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agencies/persons on the clients' behalf during the clients' initial visit. Staff and volunteers answered 518 crisis calls and calls for Information and Referral, 57 of those calls after hours. SARC invested 234 hours of services toward new clients at intake. 67% of new clients were female (the percentage of females served has reduced from last year), and 33% were male.

Types of Assault:
- 38% Family Molestation
- 17% Date/Acquaintance Rape
- 12% Family Rape
- 9% Acquaintance Molestation
- 9% Other/Unknown
- 6% Adult Survivor
- 4% Stranger Rape
- 3% Sexual Harassment
- 1% Marital Rape
- 1% Stranger Molestation

Age of Clients:
- 13% between 0 and 5 years of age
- 26% between 6 and 11 years of age
- 36% between 12 and 18 years of age
- 25% age 19 and over

Services Provided at Intake:
- 36% Support
- 32% Legal Advocacy
- 23% Medical Advocacy
- 8% Therapy Referral
- 1% Library Resources

Follow Up Services: SARC is committed to providing on-going follow up care for our clients. Advocates maintain contact with clients when that is the wish of the client. Advocates continue to offer support, provide information, and make contacts to other agencies the client may be working with. This past year, SARC provided 6,424 follow up services to clients and made 1,787 contacts with other agencies on their behalf. SARC advocates also made 738 attempted contacts with clients or others. 967 hours were invested in follow up services and contacts.

Services Provided at Follow Up:
- 52% Support
- 43% Legal Advocacy
- 2% Therapy Referrals
- 2% Medical Advocacy
- 1% Library Resources

Contacts Made by SARC:
- 69% Legal Services
- 14% Other
- 8% Counseling Services
- 4% Child Protective Services
- 4% Schools
- 1% Medical Services
- 0% Domestic Violence Services
Crime Victim Service Center

The “Crime Victims Service Center” (CVSC) is a program of the Support, Advocacy & Resource Center, and a part of SARC’s Crisis Program. Staff of the CVSC provide the same crisis and advocacy services to victims of all crimes, other than sexual assault and domestic violence; e.g. harassment, elder abuse, homicide, child physical abuse, identity theft, property crimes, robbery, kidnapping and vehicular assault.

Statistics

New Clients: The CVSC served 137 new clients this past year. 309 services were provided and 51 contacts made with other agencies/persons on the clients’ behalf during the clients’ initial visit. Staff and volunteers answered 52 calls for Information and Referral and 27 Crisis Intervention calls. The CVSC invested 61 hours of services toward new clients at intake. 73% of new clients were female, and 27% were male.

Types of Assault:
- 32% Harassment
- 26% Assault
- 16% Child Physical Abuse
- 10% Trafficking
- 4% Homicide
- 4% Property Crimes
- 2% Vehicular Assault
- 1% Kidnapping
- 1% Robbery
- 1% Fraud
- 1% Elder Abuse
- 1% Identity Theft
- 1% Hate Crimes

Age of Clients:
- 7% between 0 and 5 years of age
- 12% between 6 and 11 years of age
- 11% between 12 and 18 years of age
- 70% age 19 and over

Follow Up Services: CVSC is committed to providing on-going follow up care for our clients. Advocates maintain contact with clients when that is the wish of the client. Advocates continue to offer support, provide information, and make contacts to other agencies the client may be working with. This past year, CVSC provided 2,551 follow up services to clients and made 409 contacts with other agencies on their behalf. CVSC advocates also made 163 attempted contacts with clients or others. 670 hours were invested in follow up services and contacts.

Services Provided at Intake:
- 37% Advocacy
- 37% Legal Advocacy
- 7% Information and Referral
- 7% Crisis Intervention
- 5% Medical Advocacy
- 5% Crime Victims Compensation
- 1% Community Responding
- 1% Emergency Funds

Services Provided at Follow Up:
- 49% Support/Advocacy
- 32% Legal Advocacy
- 6% Information and Referral
- 6% Crisis Intervention
- 3% Crime Victims Compensation
- 2% Community Responding
- 1% Other Resources (library, therapy referrals, etc)
- 1% Medical Advocacy

Contacts Made by CVSC:
- 74% Legal Services
- 9% Crime Victims Compensation
- 2% Counseling Services
- 1% Domestic Violence Services
- 1% Medical Services
- 1% CPS
- 12% Other
Summer Camp

Camp SARC is a unique and innovative program that combines the rite-of-passage experience of summer day camp with group psycho-education and support for young victims of abuse. While SARC stands for the Support, Advocacy & Resource Center, during one special week each summer, it stands for *Strengthening and Revitalizing Children*. Complete with wacky songs, arts and crafts, treats and parachute games, Camp SARC engages kids in healthy and fun activities in an environment that validates and normalizes their experiences.

June 20 – 24, 2016 was the sixth annual Camp SARC and what a success!! Twenty one children participated and the experience far exceeded our expectations. Not only did the little ones self esteem grow, sense of isolation lessen, fear and anxiety reduce, and personal safety skills increase – the staff was rejuvenated and became so much more connected to the children we serve.

The five days were structured around the following group themes with a focus for each day:

**Healthy Expressions:** Feelings Identification, Affect Regulation, Trigger Identification, Coping Skills, and Resource Development

**Healthy Connections:** Active Listening and Social Skills, Respecting Others and Body Integrity, Recognizing Unhealthy Relationships, Teamwork and Interpersonal Relationships, and Enhancing Healthy Relationships

**Healthy Confidence:** External Boundaries, Internal Boundaries, Assertiveness Training, Body Safety, Personal Safety, and Self-Efficacy

**Healthy Me:** Self-Identity and Exploration, Recognition of Others, Trust and Empathy Building, Trust and Self-Empowerment, and Future Self

We went to the Kennewick Police Department, miniature golf, bowling and the movies!!
SARC offers prevention based education services throughout Benton/Franklin Counties. Programs are directed toward the prevention of sexual assault and to raise the awareness of sexual violence. All programs are done in an age appropriate manner and are sensitive to the audiences needs. The following core competencies – empathy/feelings, respect for oneself/others, self and community responsibility, boundaries for oneself and others, conflict resolution/problem solving and gender stereotyping are incorporated into all programs. These competencies were selected as they mirror developmental assets that extensive research has shown youths need to mitigate risk and to thrive. Equipping youths with many developmental assets help them to become caring, responsible adults – which are not people who become sex offenders. In addition to focusing on developing assets, children are equipped with knowledge and tools to help reduce the possibility of sexual victimization. Following are the programs provided:

**Body & Boundary Safety**  
(Preschool Program):  
Day 1: Personal Space  
Day 2: Happy Bear  
Day 3: Sunshine Puppet Show

**Safe Bodies, Healthy Minds**  
(Kindergarten-2nd Grade):  
Day 1: Recognizing Feelings and Calming Down Strong Feelings  
Day 2: Respecting Boundaries in Self and Others  
Day 3: Sunshine Puppet Theater

**Personal Body Safety**  
3rd and 4th Grade:  
Day 1: Respect and Treating Others the Way You Want to be Treated  
Day 2: Learning Assertive Steps  

Video for 4th: “Dealing with Abuse if it Happens to You.”

5th Grade:  
Day 1: Learning Assertive Steps  
Day 2: Recognizing Bullying Behavior and the Three R’s of Bullying  
Day 3: Personal Body Safety with a video: “Sexual Abuse; it's not your fault.”

**Technology Safety:**  
(To stay current with issues affecting children we have integrated information on healthy and unhealthy habits online, viewing inappropriate content/images, and for the older grades; definition and impact of pornography.)  
3rd and 4th Grade Program:  
Day 1: Introduction to Internet Safety Using the NetSmartz Curriculum  
Day 2: Understanding Personal Information and Ways to Remain Private Online

**Day 3:** How to Recognize and Avoid Cyberbullying

5th Grade Program:  
Day 1: Understanding privacy settings and creating healthy and safe online actions  
Day 2: Avoiding online predators  
Day 3: Recognizing and avoiding cyberbullying and being a good bystander

6th Grade Program:  
Day 1: Understanding Personal Information and Privacy Online  
Day 2: Avoiding online predators  
Day 3: Recognizing and avoiding cyberbullying and sexting behavior

7th & 8th Grade Program:  
Day 1: Understanding Personal Information and Privacy Online  
Day 2: Avoiding Cyberbullying & online predators  
Day 3: Avoiding sexting behavior

**Harassment and Bullying Prevention**  
(Targeted towards Middle School):  
Day 1: Healthy Relationships and Recognizing Harassment  
Day 2: Sexual Bullying and Harassment  
Day 3: Being a Good Bystander to Harassment

**Creating Healthy Relationships**  
(High School Only):  
Day 1: Creating Healthy Relationships including information about human trafficking and the video from Shared Hope International “Chosen”  
Day 2: Date/Acquaintance Rape Prevention includes information about the negative effects of pornography and video clips from the “Fight the New Drug” campaign against pornography  
Day 3: In Their Shoes Activity and Discussion

**Parent Education** - Parents are provided child sexual abuse information, a preview of the program in which their child will participate, and learn ways to reinforce concepts at home. Parent education is a vital
component in the prevention of child sexual abuse.

**General Sexual Assault** - This presentation provides statistics and informs audiences about child sexual abuse, sex offenders, adult survivors, rape, social myths, laws and prevention. This program is offered to service clubs, businesses, churches, and to anyone interested in learning more about sexual violence.

**Sexual Harassment Intervention Program (SHIP)**: This is an educational program for students who have a charge/complaint of sexual harassment against them by another student or teacher. All referrals attend the workshop together and are required to write a 500-word essay on Sexual Harassment. Information covered includes the definition of sexual harassment, victims (male and female), Impact vs. Intent, boundaries and gender stereotyping. The paper is submitted to the school principal and SARC as a part of our follow-up.

**Health Fairs and Community Events**

SARC is dedicated to participating in as many health fairs and community events as possible. We are committed to raising the awareness of sexual violence and preventing future sexual abuse. Our goal is to make every community member aware of our services and to provide the tools needed to reduce violence in our community. This year we participated in many events, including: National Night Out at the Southridge Complex in Kennewick and John Dam Plaza in Richland, Convoy of Hope, 911 Memorial Event, Mid-Columbia Duck Race, High School/College Fairs: Chiawana, Kennewick, Richland, Hanford, & Southridge, Women’s Expo, Early Learning Conference, Sacajawea Resource Fair, Pasco United, Amistad Parent Night, Highlands ATP, PFLAG Student Rights, Family Expo, Richland HS Health Night, Prosser HS Parent Forum & Resource Fair, Parent to Parent Family Expo, Hanford Health & Safety Fair, Tyson’s Health & Safety Expo, Amistad Parent Night, McLoughlin Parent Night, La Campensia/Ruido Instinto.

**Special Projects**

**Newsletter**: SARC develops and distributes a quarterly newsletter that discusses information pertaining to the prevention of sexual violence, information about local sex offenders, upcoming events, and provides a forum for individuals to voice their experience surrounding sexual violence. The newsletter is distributed to almost 4,008 individuals and agencies.

**The Little People Project**: Each year SARC showcases little wooden, three dimensional, figurines that represent the children involved in child abuse cases investigated in Benton/Franklin counties. In 2016 that number was 553. During SAAM 2016, the “Little People” were displayed at The Columbia Center Mall for one week.
Clothesline Project included over 40 t-shirts designed by local community members. We displayed our project during Washington State Sexual Assault Awareness Week 2016 at the Keewaydin and Union Branch of the Mid Columbia Libraries in Kennewick, the Connell library, and the Richland Library.

**Strides of Strength:** Strides of Strength is an annual event designed to give members in our community the opportunity to publicly demonstrate their courage and commitment to victims of crime. This was SARC’s seventh year organizing the event, held on April 16th, and was attended by 112 participants. Bill Copland once again did a great job delivering a thought provoking talk to start us off. Additionally, we had a mother speak about her daughter’s abuse prior to the walk which was extremely impactful. SARC staff, community members, volunteer advocates and board members joined in the walk down Columbia Center Blvd. Kennewick Police Department did a wonderful job blocking the cross streets and driving next to us on Columbia Center Blvd with their lights on, in addition to having DARE attend.
SARC provided 1,070 presentations, reaching 28,474 individuals. We also reached an additional 868,598 individuals through an assortment of outreach efforts.

**Audience Age:**

- Preschool: 514
- K – 2nd grade: 4,586
- 3rd grade – 5th grade: 4,350
- 6th grade – 8th grade: 14,174
- 9th grade – 12th grade: 2,719
- Adults: 1,960
- Unknown: 171

**Types of Presentations:**

- SARC Services: 23
- Body and Boundary Safety: 23
- Safe Bodies, Healthy Minds: 142
- Personal Body Safety: 206
- Technology Safety: 207
- Harassment and Bullying Prev: 298
- Creating Healthy Relationships: 111
- Parent Education: 0
- Other: 60

**Outreach Efforts:**

- Community Fairs: 4,590
- Newsletter: 5,975
- Mailouts: 4,973
- Charter Shows: 504,900
- Newspaper/Radio: 115,500
- Television News: 147,000
- Website Hits: 75,660
Kids Haven

Kids Haven is a joint effort between SARC and our local city and county governments. It is a program designed to meet the needs of children who have allegedly been physically and/or sexually abused.

The goal of Kids Haven is multi-faceted:

**Lessen the trauma to children when they disclose they have been abused:** It is difficult for children to discuss the details of their abuse. It can be made even more difficult by going to a police station, courthouse or office that can even intimidate adults. Our facility has been designed in a child friendly manner, in order to help the child feel more comfortable.

When the child is interviewed, detectives, CPS workers and prosecutors have the ability to observe the interview through a one-way mirror. Most interviews are also recorded on DVD, a copy of which is given to the investigating detective before he/she leaves the building. This reduces the need for multiple interviews, and the child does not need to relive the abuse a variety of times to an assortment of people in a multitude of settings.

**Holding more offenders accountable:** By having neutral, quality interviews conducted by an interviewer who is specifically trained, prosecutors are able to charge and convict a higher number of child abusers. The already small chance that someone may be wrongly charged is also reduced.

**Offer comprehensive services to children and their non-offending family members:** Child abuse is a horrific crime. Children and their non-offending family members deserve to receive services to assist them in the healing process. SARC offers support and advocacy and explains the many services we provide. Therapy referrals are also provided. SARC has on-site counseling available, as well as grant funds for counseling for families with limited resources.

**Structure**

The Benton County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office is responsible for the employment and supervision of the Child Interviewer and the financial administration related to this function. SARC is responsible for the employment and supervision of the advocates, and the financial administration related to these positions.

**Funding**

Our local city and county governments provide funding for the Child Interviewer and related expenses. The advocate positions and related expenses are funded through private grants, fundraising, state funds and United Way. The facility is a joint effort between SARC, local city and county governments, private grants and community donations.
Statistics

Interviews were conducted for 295 children in Benton and Franklin Counties:

**Gender:**
- 71% Female
- 29% Male

**Ages:**
- 0 – 5 years of age – 23%
- 6 – 11 years of age – 50%
- 12 – 18 years of age – 26%
- Over 19 – 1%

**Type of Abuse:**
- Sexual abuse – 79%
- Physical abuse – 9%
- Witness to violence – 10%
- Other – 2%

Outcomes

We have observed a variety of outcomes as a result of this program:

- Families do not have to wait as long to have their children interviewed.
- Charging decisions are made quicker.
- More offenders are being held accountable.
- Children are being connected to counseling services much earlier.
- Children are not re-traumatized through the interview process.
- Non-offending family members are provided the support services they need.
Funding

SARC receives funding through the Office of Crime Victims Advocacy, United Way, community donations, program fees, private grants and fundraising events. Below are individual and organization donors. All of this amazing generosity is greatly appreciated.

Donors

Duane Moe  Richard Mottice
Brian Jenner  Barbara Newell
Kristin Jarman  Jennifer Ovink
Philip McGuinness  Holly Quesenberry
Amazon Smile  Brandi Ralston
Delta Kappa Gamma  Richard Rukavina
Tri City Chivers  Norma Torres Chavez
Teresa Murphy  Alana Lindsey
Benefit Community Impact Fund  Linda Meigs
Tri City Chivers / Kroger  Debra Michelson
Frederick Mottice  Heather Moorman
All of this amazing generosity is greatly appreciated.

Capital Campaign:

Marilyn Heasley  Patricia Chvatel
Phil McGuinness  Dani Gilchrist
Rober & Carolyn Quay  Jim & Michelle Carey
Jim Stoffels  Jonathan & Candice Jones
Johnathan & Katherine Perry  Chad & Bonnie Mitchell
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Rick & JoDee Garretson  Action Team for Partnerships (ATP)
Mark & Kathi Hanson  Randy & Lauri Mendenhall
Vic & Gail Vanderschoor  Badger Mountain Elementary
Chip & Marsha Larson  Students & PTO
Claudia Hickman  Project Linus
Jane Foreman  Marilyn Heasley
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Richard Mottice  Craig & Barb Littrell
Shawn Murrow  McCurley Integrity Dealerships
Anna Cruz  Rodney Thorne
Michael Holland  Ann Peters
Legends Casino  Sultana Dancer
Joshua Aldous  Bright Horizons Kadlec Childcare Center
Michael Holland  Radio Tri-Cities
Legends Casino  Brenda Mener
Joshua Aldous  Marissa Douglas
Michael Holland  Jane Cooper
Legends Casino  Stephanie Fisher
Joshua Aldous  Columbia Basin Hearing Center
Michael Holland  Richland Church of Christ Sewing Sisters
Legends Casino  Richland Church of Christ Sewing Sisters
Legends Casino  Richland Church of Christ Sewing Sisters
Revenue

*OCVA – Office of Crime Victims Advocacy
*NCA – National Children's Alliance
*CACWA – Children’s Advocacy Centers of Washington
*PREA – Prison Rape Elimination Act
Expenses

- Program Salaries, $344,594
- Administration Salaries, $65,609
- Miscellaneous, $18,190
- Local Travel, $7,459
- Victim Assistance, $7,713
- Media/PR, $644
- Counseling Subcontracts, $12,998
- Supplies/Resources, $40,057
- Training, $13,000
- Occupancy, $44,828
- Communications, $14,942
- Employee Benefits/Payroll Taxes, $82,813
- Local Travel, $7,500

Benefit Auction

The Support, Advocacy & Resource Center (SARC) raised over $27,000 through our 16th annual Kids Haven Benefit Auction and Cinco de Mayo Celebration Dinner. All proceeds will be used to provide counseling and advocacy to victims of child abuse. Last year 295 children received these much needed services. SARC/Kids Haven would like to thank the following individuals and businesses for their help in making our auction and celebration dinner a success.

We are especially grateful to Tri-Cities Exchange Club and Tri-Cities Sunrise Rotary for generously being our “Diamond” Sponsors this year; Kadlec, for their “Platinum” Sponsorships; and to the Tri City Herald for donating ad space to thank all of our supporters.

Together we are making a difference in the lives of children.

Sponsors

Tri-Cities Exchange Club, Tri-Cities Sunrise Rotary, Kadlec, Columbia Valley Daybreak Rotary, Trios Health, Haberling Financial Group Trust, Dr. Kiersten Week

Table Sponsors: Defoe Pickett Law Office, Rick & Cindy Rochleau, Tri-Cities Optimist Club, Marilyn Heasley, Umpqua Bank, Columbia Valley Daybreak Rotary, CH2M Hill

Individual Donors

Brenda Alford, Caitlin Almaguer, Debra Anderson, Chris Blevins, Jo Brodzinski, Sheena Brown, Tom Coyne, Arlene Custer, Morissa Douglas, Steve & Joy Felton, Peter Fitzroy, JoDee Garretson, Carol Harting, Leslie Kedzior, Frank & Mary Lamb, Jennifer Lynn Lollar, Duane Moe, Melinda Moore, Donna Raymond, Jennifer Tonn, Leroy Tonn, Dee Turner, Mitzi Veng, Suzi Vitulli, Mike Wilson, Barbara Wolski, Marjie Worden

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Auctioneer: Randy Way & Music by DJ Triniman

Caterer: El Chapala

Local Donors


Staff

JoDee Garretson, Executive Director
Denise Martin, Prevention Specialist
Rosanna Herrera, Sexual Assault Advocate
Jessica Ramirez, Sexual Assault Advocate

Mitzi Veng, Office Administrator
Jennifer Tonn/Angela Escobar, Program Assistant
Lindsay Gladstone, Prevention Specialist
Norma Torres/Alejandra Cardoso, Crime Victim Advocate

Support, Advocacy & Resource Center
830 North Columbia Center Blvd. Suite H
Kennewick, WA 99336

www.supportadvocacyresourcecenter.org