

ANNUAL REPORT

JAN. 1, 2017 – DEC. 31, 2017



Sexual Assault Services

Dear Friends of SAS,

2017 kept us busy as we continued to assist survivors of sexual assault and provide education and awareness wherever we could.

Highlights from 2017 include:

- Continued strengthening of our regional sexual assault services:
 - We provided training to advocates and counselors from five counties.
 - We held advocate training in Van Buren and Calhoun Counties and provided training support in Kalamazoo County.
- Law enforcement in Calhoun and Van Buren Counties received training during the year.
- Our new outreach counselor provided counseling in Van Buren County two days each week and continues to see survivors at schools and other safe locations as needed.
- SANE Debra McEldowney provided information and training about human trafficking to over 2,000 health care providers throughout the Bronson system and affiliates in the region.
- We implemented a monthly counselor peer supervision meeting with counselors from six programs in Jackson, Branch, St. Joseph, Van Buren, Kalamazoo and Calhoun counties.

The SAS advisory board was expanded to include regional representation and to provide a more diverse membership.

Sexual Assault Cold Case Work:

Our counseling, advocacy and sexual assault nurse examiner (SANE) staff worked closely with the Calhoun County sexual assault cold case team to assist survivors with victim notification, crisis counseling, ongoing support and court advocacy. This work will continue until all cases are resolved. Our staff provided support to multiple victims in a Kalamazoo County cold case.

SAS was designated as the Calhoun County Child Abuse and Neglect Council, with funding and support from the Michigan Children's Trust Fund.

The Child Advocacy Center supervisor facilitated a training with the Michigan Chapter of the National Children's Alliance that focused on the resilience of the Calhoun County multidisciplinary team.

Prevention and awareness activities expanded to reach new audiences at nine schools and four medical practices in Calhoun County.

With much gratitude,



Joyce Siegel
System Manager
Sexual Assault Services

Special Points of Interest

Helping Survivors*

- 1,200 people who were affected by sexual assault or abuse received services from SAS personnel
- 558 victims received specialized medical services; 182 victims benefited from an expert nurse phone consultation and 493 received medical-forensic examinations at our Oaklawn, Bronson Battle Creek, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) regional sites, YWCA Kalamazoo, Bronson Methodist Hospital, Bronson LakeView Hospital or the child advocacy clinic at Bronson Children's Hospital.
- Victim advocates assisted 224 friends and family members of victims during the time of the medical forensic exam in Calhoun County.
- SAS advocates (either paid staff or volunteers) assisted 50 victims and family members/friends during the court process.
- 213 children and 117 family members received specialized multidisciplinary team services at the Child Advocacy Center.
- 282 survivors of sexual violence received individual, group or family counseling by trained, master's level therapists.
- 32 trained community volunteers donated 7,126 hours to assist victims at hospitals, police departments and courts.

**Collaboration with the YWCA Kalamazoo and The Domestic Violence Coalition, Inc. in Van Buren County helps provide advocacy and counseling services in our region. Statistics from these organizations are not included.*

Education and Prevention

- More than 5,900 youth from kindergarten through high school received sexual assault prevention education and materials.
- More than 490 adults and college students received sexual assault prevention education and materials.

Michigan's Children's Trust Fund

In 2017, Sexual Assault Services was awarded a \$10,000 grant from the Children's Trust Fund, Michigan's only statewide nonprofit organization solely dedicated to the prevention of child abuse and neglect. As part of the grant, the SAS advisory board serves as the Child Abuse and Neglect Council of Calhoun County.

Of the \$10,000 grant, 85 percent will support existing child sexual abuse prevention education and community awareness programming. Through a community educator, SAS provides school-based prevention education to students in preschool through college. In addition, the community educator provides adult presentations to professionals, caregivers, parents and community organizations.

"This grant and the opportunity to be our county's child abuse and neglect prevention council provides much needed support for our sexual assault prevention program," says Joyce Siegel, SAS system manager. "More children and adults in our community will be aware of SAS services and ways to prevent sexual violence. SAS is here to help."

The remaining \$1,500 of the grant will be given to the Calhoun County Safe Sleep Coalition. The money will be used to purchase fitted sheets, pack and play cribs and education for families in need of safe sleep resources.

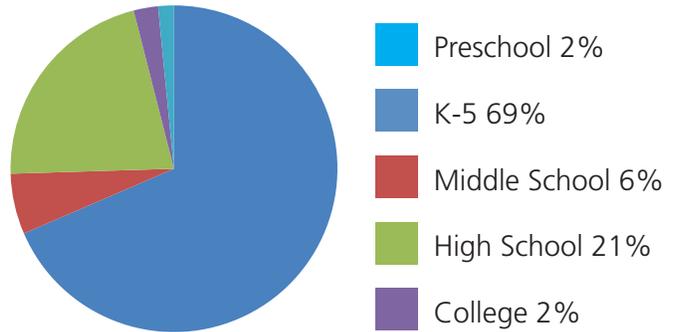
Calhoun County has a strong history of providing child abuse prevention support in the community. SAS recognizes the dedicated service of the previous Calhoun County Child Abuse and Neglect Council and is honored to continue this work to keep our children safe.

Community Education

School-Based Education Sessions

In 2017, there were 260 school-based prevention and educational presentations. At these presentations, we had 95 preschool participants, 4,191 K-5 participants, 367 middle school participants, 1,316 high school participants and 148 college participants. Training topics included dynamics of sexual assault, safe dates/healthy relationships, bullying prevention, sexual harassment prevention and sexual abuse prevention.

**Number of Participants
at School Based
Prevention Presentation**



Prevention Education

Student Feedback:

"Bystanders can help."

"I learned that it is important to be supportive toward victims."

"I learned how to help a friend that is being abused."

"You must get consent."

Community-Based Awareness Events

During this reporting period, there were 21 community-based awareness events held for adults, including parents and professionals. At these events, 2,298 individuals were in attendance.

Systems Change Activities

SAS staff participates in community interagency workgroups and committees including:

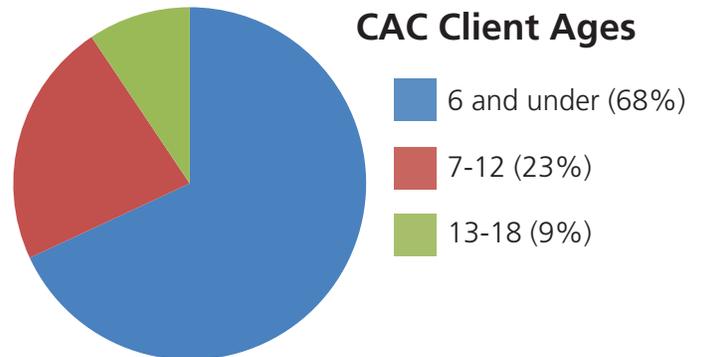
- Calhoun County Sexual Assault Domestic Violence Coordinating Council
- Committee on Adolescent Sexual Health
- The Coordinating Council
- Great Start Collaborative Workgroup
- Healthy and Developmentally On Track auction team
- Battle Creek Public Schools' auction team
- Maternal and Infant Health Commission
- Albion College Sexual Assault Protocol Committee
- Kalamazoo Alliance Against Sexual Assault
- Kalamazoo County Coordinated Community Response Team
- Calhoun County Sex Offender Management Team
- Calhoun County Child Death Review Team
- At the Crossroads (A Chapter of the Michigan Human Trafficking Task Force)

Children's Advocacy Center (CAC)

The Children's Advocacy Center (CAC) provides a coordinated, collaborative approach to addressing child sexual abuse and severe physical abuse in our community. A multidisciplinary team works together to help minimize the trauma victims may experience by providing coordinated investigative team interviews, advocacy services, follow up contacts, referrals and information, therapy and monthly case review meetings. In September, 22 team members attended the training, Building Resiliency in the CAC/Multidisciplinary Team. As a result, we are excited to have an action plan for continuing to build resiliency in our team.

In 2017:

- 213 children received specialized forensic interviews, and 117 non-offending family members received support and advocacy.
- 151 female children and 62 male children were interviewed.
- 145 children were 6 years old and under, 48 children were between the ages of 7 to 12 years old and 20 children were between the ages of 13 to 18 years old.
- 201 children were interviewed for allegations of sexual abuse and 11 children for physical abuse.
- Eight forensic interviews were completed at our Marshall CAC site located at Crossroads Church and Ministries.



CAC Clients have Access to Information about Child Sexual Abuse

- CAC family advocate case records indicate that 213 (100 percent) children and families served received verbal information as well as a packet of information at the time of the CAC services.
- 31 clients (63.3 percent) report strongly agreeing and 10 clients (20.4 percent) agreeing that they were given information about common reactions to child sexual abuse.
- CAC family advocate case records indicate that 213 of children and families served (100 percent) received information about next steps in the process verbally from the family advocate and the multidisciplinary team members and in writing in the CAC family packet of information.

Caregiver comments in response to what they appreciated most about their experience at the CAC include:

"The staff was friendly and made my daughter feel at ease."

"The staff was kind and friendly."

"I appreciate how friendly the staff was and how reassuring it was to know that they could provide assistance to my child."

"Everyone was understanding."

"They made my child feel safe and important."

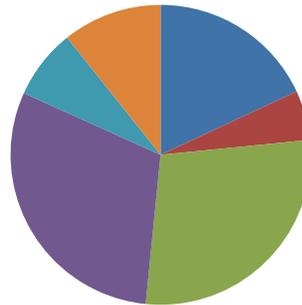
"They were very kind and reassuring. I felt like my children were safe in their hands."

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Program

Sexual assault nurse examiners (SANEs) are available on-call 24/7 as part of our crisis sexual assault response team. These specially trained registered nurses provide medical-forensic examination for victims of acute sexual assault.

During this reporting period:

- The SANE program provided expertise to 558 patients.
- 182 of the patients received phone consultation from an expert nurse either directly or via consultation with their healthcare provider, law enforcement or other professional.
- 493 patients received medical forensic examinations.
- The age range for patients was quite broad with 189 adult patients and 369 patients under the age of 18.
- 108 male patients and 450 female patients received care.



SANE Exam Visits by Site

- BBC 18%
- Marshall (Oaklawn) 5%
- YWCA of Kalamazoo 28%
- Child Advocacy Clinic (Kalamazoo) 30%
- Bronson LakeView 8%
- Bronson Methodist 11%

SANE Program Expansion

The regional SANE program continued through 2017 serving all of Calhoun County at Bronson Battle Creek and Oaklawn Hospital. In Kalamazoo County, services were provided at the YWCA Kalamazoo, the Child Advocacy Clinic* at Bronson Children's Hospital and Bronson Methodist Emergency Department. In Van Buren County, services were provided at Bronson Lakeview Hospital with assistance from advocates at The Domestic Violence Coalition, Inc. The regional SANE program of SAS employs seven full-time nurse examiners.

**The Child Advocacy Clinic at Bronson Children's Hospital accepts referrals from a 9-county Bronson Healthcare Group service area in southwest Michigan.*

Volunteer Victim Advocacy Program

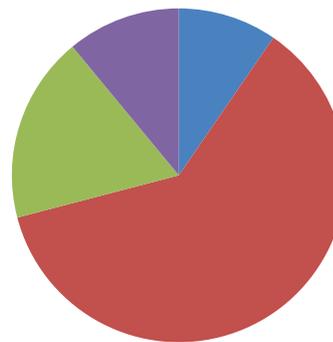
SAS held volunteer advocate trainings in March and October 2017. There were 18 participants who attended, bringing our total number of volunteer community victim advocates to 32. Our volunteers provided 7,126 hours of on-call time during this reporting period. SAS volunteer victim advocates offer emotional support and referral information to survivors and their loved ones.

Crisis Advocacy Survey Outcomes

SAS advocates provided surveys following crisis advocacy services. In 118 hospital/police department cases, 113 surveys were completed by victim advocates. This is a 95.76 completion rate. Surveys indicate that 102 respondents (90.27 percent) report that information regarding the common effects of sexual assault was provided to the survivor and 101 respondents (89.38 percent) provided information regarding counseling support services in the community that the survivor may need.

Counseling Services and Survey Outcomes

- The SAS counseling staff includes seven therapists with master's degrees and two social work interns earning master's degrees from Western Michigan University. In 2017, a new full-time outreach and cold case therapist was hired to work in Van Buren County and other surrounding counties, as well as do cold-case work in Calhoun County.
- All counselors are trained in trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy and utilize trauma-informed, strengths-based interventions.
- 282 survivors and family members received free counseling at SAS last year.



SAS Client Ages

- Adult Male 10%
- Adult Female 61%
- Children (0-12) 18%
- Adolescents (13-17) 14%

In 2017:

- Counseling clients were offered anonymous surveys of which 29 were completed (10.28 percent).
- Counseling client surveys report 23 clients strongly agree (79.31 percent) and six clients agree (20.69 percent) that they were assisted in identifying personal strengths.
- 21 clients (72.41 percent) strongly agree and 8 clients (27.59 percent) agree that they received assistance in developing positive coping skills.
- 8 clients (96.55 percent) report they would strongly encourage and one client (3.45 percent) would encourage a friend to contact SAS for counseling services.
- Of 29 responding clients, 15 (51.72 percent) attended more than 10 counseling sessions; 5 (17.24 percent) attended six to 10 sessions; and 9 (31.03 percent) attended three to five sessions.
- Two adult group members indicated that they strongly agreed that people in the group understood what they were going through.
- Two clients strongly agreed that they would recommend the group to others.

SAS staff

SAS Staff, Credentials and Titles

Pam Buchko – Volunteer Coordinator/Victim Advocate
 KrisAnne Cravens, BSN, RN, SANE-A, SANE-P – Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner
 Krista Fletcher – Information/Financial Analyst
 Amber Goodlock, LMSW – Therapist
 Tami Gregg, RN – Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner
 Laurie Hartman – Community Educator & Resource Coordinator
 Jennifer Hudson, LLMSW – Outreach Counselor
 Sherri Khillah, BSN, RN, SANE-A, SANE-P – Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner
 Dannielle Kostrab, LMSW – CAC Program Supervisor/Therapist
 Jeff LaPonsie, LMSW – CAC Family Advocate/Therapist
 Stacy McDonald, LMFT - Therapist
 Debra McEldowney, MSN, RN, SANE-A – Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner
 Maureen McNamara, LMSW, DCSW – Therapist
 Linda Nycum, LPC – Therapist
 Jannette Richmond-Kern, BSN, RN, BAS – Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner
 Joyce Siegel, LMSW – System Manager
 Allison Stacy – Administrative Specialist/Advocate
 Phyllis VanOrder, RN, SANE-A, SANE-P – Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program Coordinator
 Diana Vescoso, RN – Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner
 Elizabeth Walters, LMSW – Forensic Interview Specialist

SAS Community Advisory Board

Kristi Angelo – Trooper, Michigan State Police
 Cathy Brown – Program Director, YWCA Kalamazoo
 Betty Christ – Community Member
 Nikki Clemens – Parent Representative
 Michelle Datema – Nurse-Family Partnership Manager, Calhoun Co. Public Health Department
 Nora Geiger – Director Victim Services, Calhoun Co. Prosecutor’s Office
 Pat Graw – Community Member
 Melanie Hooker – Executive Director, The Domestic Violence Coalition, Inc.
 Larry Juday – Police Officer, Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi
 Clare Loughrige – Pastor, Crossroads Church and Ministries
 Dr. Sheila Matthews – Professor, Kellogg Community College
 Bill McClure – Child Protective Services, Calhoun Co. Dept. of Health and Human Services
 Katy Reed – Crime Victim Legal Assistance Project, Legal Services of South Central Michigan
 Timeaka Reese – Center for Diversity and Inclusion, Kellogg Community College
 Megan Reynolds – Deputy Chief Court Administrator, 37th Circuit Court of Calhoun County
 Robin Rogers – DLA Sexual Assault Response Coordinator
 Martha Thawngmumng – Executive Director, Burma Center
 Brad Wise – Inspector, Battle Creek Police Department
 Chandra Youngblood – Director of Elementary Education, Battle Creek Public Schools

Mission Statement

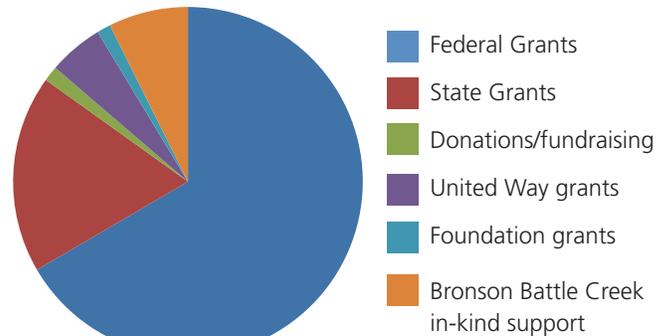
Sexual Assault Services is committed to providing empathic, non-judgmental, comprehensive services, support and advocacy for survivors and others affected by sexual assault or abuse; raising awareness of sexual assault; and engaging others to help in holding offenders accountable and to achieve a community free of sexual violence.



Children’s Trust Fund
 Protecting Michigan’s Children

2017 SAS Funding Sources

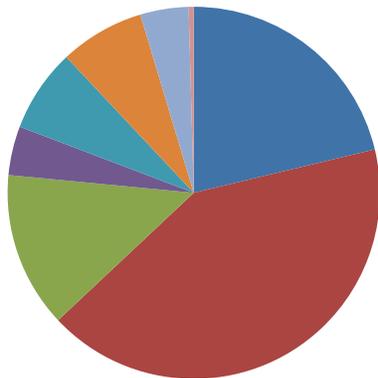
Federal grants	\$1,001,784.40
State grants	\$275,538.55
Donations/fundraising	\$21,114.13
United Way grants	\$76,230.23
Foundation grants	\$19,226.20
Bronson Battle Creek in-kind support	\$110,720.90
Total	\$1,504,614.41



Expenses

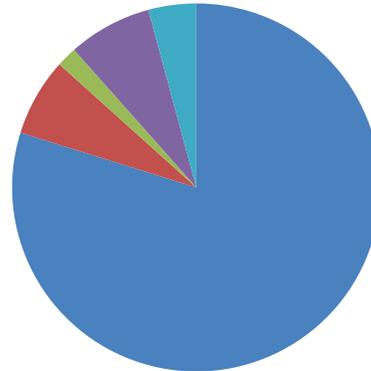
Programs/Services Expenses:

Counseling/Advocacy	\$319,701.95	21%
SANE	\$628,098.97	42%
CAC	\$203,595.85	14%
Prevention education	\$63,990.83	4%
Management/administrative	\$108,780.00	8%
BBC in-kind support	\$110,720.90	7%
Volunteer match	\$63,087.00	4%
Misc. Expenses	\$6,638.91	1%
Total	\$1,504,614.41	100%



Expenses

Personnel	\$1,200,853.92	80%
Bronson in-kind support	\$110,720.90	7%
Supplies and materials	\$103,051.99	7%
Volunteer Match	\$63,087.00	4%
Travel and conferences	\$26,900.60	2%
Total	\$1,504,614.41	100%



Bronson Battle Creek is a major partner of Sexual Assault Services, donating space and in-kind services. Because of this, Sexual Assault Services is a department of Bronson Battle Creek. This project is funded by Grant No. 20448-21V15 awarded to The Bronson Health Foundation, by the Michigan Crime Victim Services Commission. The agreement award of \$760,490 (80 percent 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 and U.S. Department of Justice. Bronson Battle Creek provides the required match valued at \$190,123 by the use of volunteers and other local match. Sexual Assault Services wishes to thank the Michigan Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Prevention and Treatment Board for their financial support of this project. This project was supported by Grant No. 15-13002 by the Bureau of Justice Assistance, Office of Justice Programs and U.S. Department of Justice (STOP GRANT). Sexual Assault Services receives an accredited center grant from the National Children's Alliance/MI Chapter of the NCA. Sexual Assault Services also receives in-kind support from Oaklawn Hospital, Crossroads Church and Ministries in Marshall, The Domestic Violence Coalition and Bronson Lakeview Hospital. Sexual Assault Services is a United Way of the Battle Creek and Kalamazoo Region Community Solutions Partner. Other current funding sources include: The Bronson Health Foundation, the Marshall United Way, Junior League of Battle Creek, the Battle Creek Community Foundation and the Miller Foundation. Donations have been received from the Marshall Exchange Club, Christ Lutheran Church in Marshall, the Battle Creek Kiwanis Club and many generous individuals and organizations. All grant funding was expended according to allowable, restricted expenses for each grant.

Assistance with requesting Crime Victims Compensation is available to victims of crime who wish to apply. All services are free of charge

Sexual Assault Services

36 W. Manchester St.,
Battle Creek, MI 49037
(269) 245-3925



Child Advocacy Center: (269) 245-3835

sascc.net

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