

# ANNUAL REPORT

JANUARY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2019

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Dear Friends of SAS,

**Highlights from 2019 include:**

- Hosting Sterling Riethman, a former gymnast and collegiate diver who was one of the first survivors of Larry Nassar to publicly reveal her identity, as the keynote speaker at our SAS Annual Recognition Dinner. She inspired all of us with her powerful story to continue in our advocacy for survivors at all levels.
- Piloting the 12-week program “Coaching Boys into Men” with Battle Creek Central High School’s varsity football team.
- Participation in a Coordinated Community Response Team at Albion College that will work to strengthen policies, protocols, services and training addressing interpersonal violence.
- New Michigan Division of Victim Services grant to expand and strengthen advocacy and counseling services in Van Buren County for survivors, their loved ones and the community.

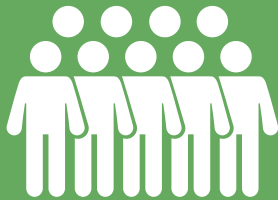
In the year ahead, we look forward to new and existing opportunities in providing multi-session prevention programming and implementing Coaching Boys into Men into other sports across the county. In addition, we are excited to expand counseling services to include a pilot trauma informed yoga group to survivors, funded by Battle Creek Community Foundation.

Thank you for your continued support in Sexual Assault Services and helping us provide comprehensive, survivor centered and trauma-informed services to survivors, their loved ones and our community. Your support and advocacy makes a difference in letting survivors know they are seen, heard and believed.



*Dannielle Kostrab, LMSW*  
*SAS System Manager*

# 2019: A Year in Review



**1,513** persons  
affected by sexual assault  
received support from Sexual  
Assault Services



**265** children and  
**228** family members  
received specialized services  
from the Child Advocacy Center



**463** victims  
received specialized  
medical services

**461**

survivors and  
family members  
received free  
counseling from  
a SAS therapist



**63** victims and family  
members received SAS-assisted  
support during the court process



**29** volunteers gave  
**7,506**  
volunteer hours to  
assist victims



**5,477** youth and adults  
received sexual assault  
prevention education

SAS works in collaboration with the YWCA of Kalamazoo and the Domestic Violence Coalition in Van Buren County to provide advocacy and counseling services in our region. Statistics from these organizations are not included here.

**Sexual Assault Services**

## Education and Prevention

### School-Based Education Sessions

SAS provides school-based programming for children and youth, preschool through college, to prevent sexual abuse and assault. Pre-K and elementary children learn that they are in charge of their body, parts of their body are private, they can say no to touches that make them uncomfortable, and what to do if someone tries to touch them inappropriately. Middle and high school students learn the warning signs of unhealthy relationships, the concept of sexual consent, what to do if they are sexually assaulted, and bystander intervention. Adults learn steps to protect children such as minimizing opportunity, having age appropriate conversations about bodies, sex, and boundaries, recognizing signs of abuse, and reacting responsibly to suspected abuse. Professionals learn how to identify interpersonal violence and connect survivors to appropriate services.

New in 2019: SAS identified three partners to pilot multi-session prevention programming. The Battle Creek Central High School varsity football team implemented the 12-week Coaching Boys into Men curriculum. Voces Early Literacy program and Wattles Park Elementary implemented the Second Step Child Protection unit. These programs will be expanded in 2020.

Number of Participants at Prevention Presentations	
Preschool-aged children	230
K-5 Students	3,981
Middle School Students	654
High School Students	612
College Students	162
Adults	2,684*

**\*Community-Based Awareness Events.** During this reporting period, there were 25 community-based awareness events held for adults, including both parents and professionals. At these events, 2,536 individuals were in attendance.

### Systems Change Activities

SAS staff participates in a variety of community interagency workgroups and committees, including:

- Calhoun County Sexual Assault Domestic Violence Coordinating Council
- Maternal and Infant Health Commission
- SAS Youth Advisory Council
- Albion College Coordinated Community Response Team
- At the Crossroads Regional Human Trafficking Task Force

## Children's Advocacy Center (CAC)

**"The staff was very kind and helpful. They were also very understanding, compassionate and accommodating to my child and I. Absolutely clear with the process throughout every step."**

*— A caregiver of a child who received services.*

The CAC provides a coordinated, collaborative approach to addressing child sexual abuse and severe physical abuse in our community. A multi-disciplinary 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 2019:**

- 265 children received specialized forensic interviews, and 228 non-offending family members received support and advocacy.
- There were 183 female children, 81 male children, and one transgender child interviewed during this period.
- 51 children were 6 years old and under, 116 children were between the ages of 7 to 12 years old, 96 children were 13 to 17 years old, and 9 were adults with intellectual disabilities.
- 245 children were interviewed for allegations of sexual abuse, 15 children for physical abuse, and 5 children were interviewed as a witness to violence.
- 22 forensic interviews were completed at our Marshall CAC site located at Crossroads Church and Ministries.

## Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Program

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANEs) are available on-call 24 hours a day, 365 days a year as part of our crisis Sexual Assault Response Team. These specially trained registered nurses provide the medical forensic examination for victims of acute sexual assault.

### **In 2019:**

- 463 patients received a form of service from the SANE program.
- 412 of the patients received phone consultation from an expert nurse either directly or via consultation with their healthcare provider, law enforcement or other professional.
- 305 patients received acute medical forensic examinations, which included 181 adults and 124 patients under the age of 18.
- 39 male patients, 262 female patients, and 4 transgender patients received acute medical forensic examinations.

## Volunteer Victim Advocacy Program

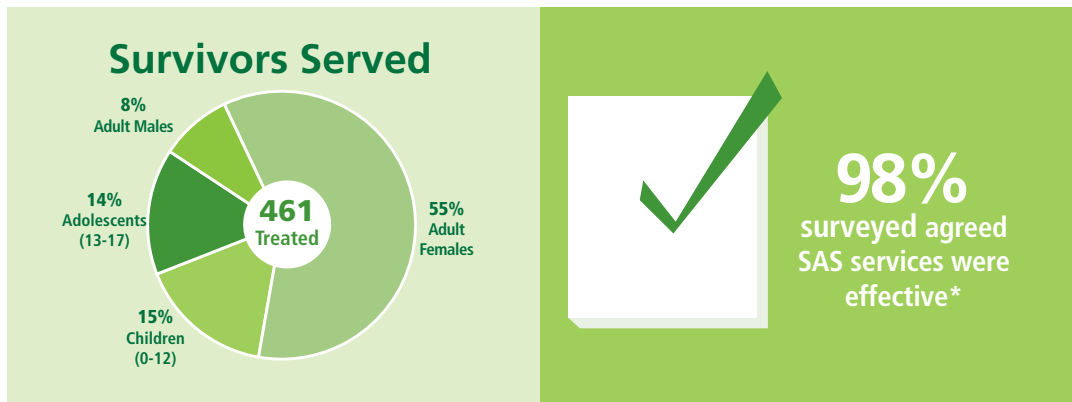
SAS held volunteer advocate trainings in March and October 2019 with a total of 9 participants, which brought our total number of volunteer community victim advocates to 29. Our volunteers provided 7,506 hours of on-call time during this reporting period. SAS volunteer victim advocates offer emotional support and referral information to survivors and their loved ones.

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer, contact Pam Buchko at 269-245-3906.

## Counseling Services and Outcomes

Our counseling practice is based on a client-centered, empowerment focus. We work as a team with our clients, with the understanding that clients know themselves and their circumstances best. Our therapists have extensive education and training for providing services to survivors on the trauma of sexual assault. All therapists are trained in trauma-focused cognitive behavioral therapy and utilize trauma-informed, strengths-based interventions.

- The SAS counseling staff includes eight master's level therapists and two master's level interns.
- 461 survivors and family members received free counseling at SAS last year
- Multiple support groups were offered this year, including a teen support/therapy group; children's group; caregiver group; and women's group. Child care was also provided.
- Clients are now asked if there were any barriers to accessing SAS services. Some responses include transportation and hours of counseling services.



## SAS Counseling Services

### In 2019:

- 98% of counseling clients agree that their counselor explained how the assault was not their fault.
- 98% of counseling clients agree that their counselor explained the effects of sexual assault on survivors.
- 96% of counseling clients agree that they received assistance in developing positive coping skills.
- 98% of counseling clients agree that SAS services were effective in helping them achieve their goals.

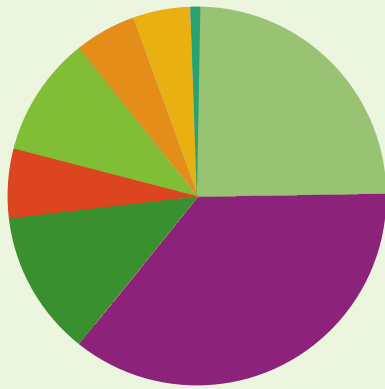
*\*These results were based off anonymous surveys given to counseling clients, of which 45 were completed (9.76%).*

## SAS Community Advisory Board

Tomika Bell –Calhoun County Prosecutor’s Office  
 Nikki Clemens – Parent Representative  
 Ellen Collier – SAFE Place  
 Michelle Datema – Calhoun County Public Health Department  
 Pat Graw – Community Member  
 Melanie Hooker –Domestic Violence Coalition  
 Larry Juday –Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi  
 Steve Lamb—Michigan State Police  
 Clare Loughrige –Crossroads Church & Ministries  
 Dr. Sheila Matthews –Kellogg Community College

Bill McClure –Calhoun County DHHS  
 Nancy Mullett – Clark Hill, PLC  
 Tha Par—Burma Center  
 Katy Reed –Legal Services of South Central MI  
 Megan Reynolds –37th Circuit Court – Calhoun County  
 Robin Rogers – SARP Defense Logistics Agency (DLA)  
 Brad Wise –Battle Creek Police Department  
 Chandra Youngblood –Battle Creek Public Schools

### SAS Program Expenses

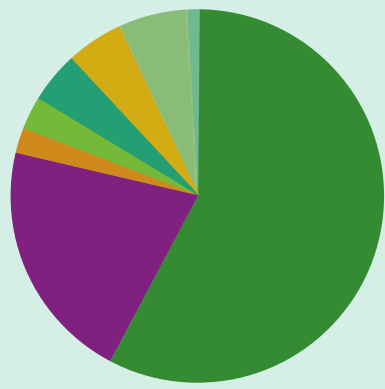


- SANE Program
- Counseling/Advocacy
- CAC
- Management & Administrative
- Prevention Education
- Bronson In-Kind
- Volunteer Match
- Misc. Expenses

#### Programs/Services Expenses:

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Program	\$535,907.14	36%
Counseling/Advocacy	\$367,186.31	25%
Children’s Advocacy Center (CAC)	\$188,104.90	13%
Management/Administrative	\$154,252.70	10%
Prevention Education	\$82,760.23	6%
Bronson In-Kind	\$75,441.92	5%
Volunteer Match	\$73,250	4%
Misc. Expenses	\$9,048.43	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,485,951.63</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 2019 SAS Funding Sources



- Federal Grants
- State Grants
- Bronson In-Kind
- Local and Foundation Grants
- Foundation Grants
- United Way Grants
- Donations
- SAFE Fund
- Miscellaneous Funds

#### Funding Sources

Federal Grants	\$877,802.29	58%
State Grants	\$315,442.07	21%
SAFE Fund	\$91,723.43	6%
Bronson In-Kind	\$75,441.92	5%
Local and Foundation Grants	\$66,308.15	4%
United Way Grants	\$45,115.56	3%
Donations/Fundraising	\$34,712.84	2%
Miscellaneous Funds	\$14,118.21	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,520,664.47</b>	<b>100%</b>

HelpNet



Children's Trust Fund  
 Protecting Michigan's Children

BRONSON

Bronson Battle Creek is a major partner with Sexual Assault Services, donating space and in-kind services, making Sexual Assault Services a department of Bronson Battle Creek Hospital. This project is funded by Grant No. 2017-VA-GX-0063 awarded to Bronson Health Foundation, by the Michigan Crime Victim Services Commission. The agreement award of \$929,088 (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 \$232,272 by the use of volunteers and other local match. This project is also funded by the Sexual Assault Victim Services agreement award of \$81,554 for services in Van Buren County. Sexual Assault Services wishes to thank the Michigan Division of Victim Services and Michigan Domestic Violence Sexual Assault Prevention and Treatment Board for their financial support of this project. Sexual Assault Services is an accredited center of 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 in Paw Paw. Sexual Assault Services is a United Way of the Battle Creek and Kalamazoo Region Community Solutions Partner. Other current funding sources include: Michigan Children's Trust Fund, Bronson Health Foundation, Marshall United Way, Battle Creek Community Foundation, Miller Foundation, Guido A. and Elizabeth H. Binda Foundation, Marshall Community Foundation, and Albion Community Foundation (Grant No. 20190131). Donations have been received from the Marshall Exchange Club, the Battle Creek Kiwanis Club and many generous individuals and organizations. All grant funding is 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



**Crisis Line**  
**888.383.2192**

**Child Advocacy Center:** (269) 245-3835

[sacc.net](http://sacc.net)

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**Sexual Assault Services**