

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The services provided by REACH would not be possible without the support and commitment of our caring volunteers. REACH volunteers are vital to our program in many ways.

How can you help?

- * Volunteer as a Sexual Assault Victim Advocate
- * Fundraising
- * Program Awareness, Events and Displays
- * Office Support
- * Special Projects

Extensive training is provided. Please contact us for more information if you are interested in becoming a member of the REACH team!



304-340-3676 (Kanawha)

304-372-8890 (Jackson)

800-656-HOPE (Toll-Free)

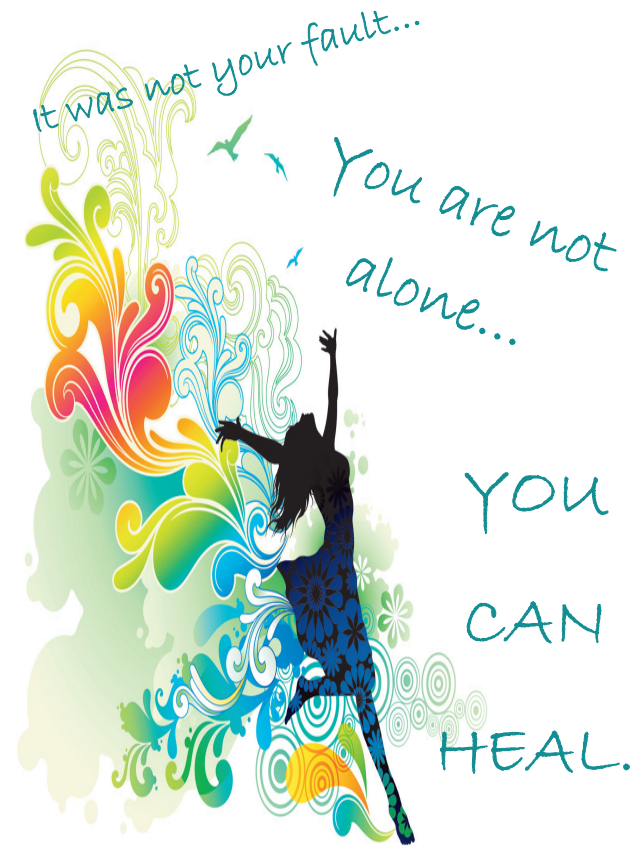
www.familycounselingconnection.org

Look for us on Facebook at
REACH-Kanawha County and
REACH-Jackson County

**24-hour
Confidential
Hotline**

*Services available in the Kanawha
Valley & surrounding areas*

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REACH

Rape Education, Advocacy, Counseling & Healing

Rape Crisis Program

Family Counseling Connection
1021 Quarrier Street, Suite 414
Charleston, West Virginia 25301

304-340-3676 (Kanawha County)

304-372-8890 (Jackson County)

800-656-HOPE (Toll-Free)

24-hour Confidential Hotline

MISSION

REACH is dedicated to providing professional, compassionate care to survivors of sexual violence and to working toward creating a community in which sexual violence is no longer tolerated.

SERVICES

- * 24-hour Rape Crisis Hotline and Emergency Room Accompaniment
- * Follow-up Supportive Counseling and Advocacy Services
- * Support throughout criminal justice process
- * Education Programs
- * Professional Training Programs
- * Volunteer Program

All services are free.

Background of REACH

Family Counseling Connection (FCC) has been serving people in the Kanawha Valley since 1929. In 1979, Family Counseling Connection merged with the Sexual Assault Information Center and became a participating agency with the United Way. FCC operates three programs: REACH, Individual and Family Therapy, and Sexual Abuse Therapy.

Defining Sexual Violence

Sexual violence is forced sexual activity upon a person through physical force, coercion, manipulation, or threats. A person is also a victim of sexual violence if she/he is unable to consent due to age, disability, illness, or the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

Sexual violence includes sexual assault, sexual abuse, incest, sexual harassment, sexual exploitation, sexual exposure, and voyeurism. Stalking may also be considered sexual violence. These crimes are motivated not by sexual desire, but by the need to control, humiliate, and instill fear in another human being.



Statistics

Sexual violence can happen to anyone, anytime, and anyplace. It happens to people of all ages, races, genders, religions, sexual orientations, incomes, and professions.

- * National studies indicate 1 in 6 adult women and 1 in 33 adult men have been sexually assaulted.
- * One in four college females have been victims of rape or attempted rape.
- * Approximately 80% of victims know their attackers.
- * Approximately 75% of sexual assaults involve the use of alcohol and/or drugs.
- * In West Virginia, 1 in 6 adult women and 1 in 21 men have been sexually assaulted.
- * In Kanawha County, 10,000 adult women have been victims of rape.
- * In West Virginia, only about 17% of sexual assaults are reported to law enforcement.



Impact

Sexual violence is a crime of violence, power, and humiliation. Although every individual is unique and each experiences and responds to the aftermath in distinctive ways, there is one common denominator—the impact is devastating. Some of the feelings one may be experiencing are:

- * Fear
- * Shock and Disbelief
- * Guilt and Self-Blame
- * Confusion
- * Anxiety
- * Anger
- * Distrust
- * Shame and Humiliation
- * Depression
- * Denial

Because many do not talk about the experience to anyone, they are often left to suffer through the trauma alone.



IF YOU HAVE BEEN VICTIMIZED

- * Go to a safe place.
- * Preserve evidence in plain paper bags in case you decide to report the crime. Do not shower, douche, eat, drink, brush teeth, or change clothes.
- * If you choose to report the crime, contact law enforcement as soon as possible.
- * Seek medical care; even if you choose to not report the crime, it is important to treat any physical injuries and to assess the risk of exposure to sexually transmitted infections and the possibility of pregnancy. Evidence may be collected regardless of whether you report to law enforcement.
- * Consider contacting REACH. We can guide you through the healing process and help you reclaim your life.

*Be kind to yourself.
If you survived, you
did everything right!*