

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Benchbook on Sexual Assault

FRIS is chairing this project for the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals. The projected publication date is 2009.

Emergency Contraception Pharmacy Survey

The WV Women's Health Care Initiative, our partnership with WV FREE and the WV ACLU, was the first in the nation to conduct an emergency contraception access survey. Of the 431 pharmacies responding (78% response rate), 71% stock Plan B. Of the 125 pharmacies that do not stock Plan B, 49% could get it in 24 hours, with 39% not stocking it due to a 'lack of consumer demand' and 25% providing referrals to other pharmacies. The rape crisis centers received the survey results to assist them in their advocacy work.

West Virginia Mobile SANE Project Replication Guide

In June the Office for Victims of Crime released 'Implementing SANE Programs in Rural Communities: West Virginia's Mobile Sane Project Replication Guide.' The guide (available electronically and in print version) overviews our mobile SANE project and can be accessed at http://www.ovc.gov/publications/infores/wva_mobile_sane_guide/welcome.html

Additional Projects/Highlights:

- A SANE pediatric protocol was developed and piloted in one region of the state.
- FRIS staff are participating in a collaborative of southeastern states to develop a model SANE curriculum.
- A proposal was submitted to OVW for the Arrest Grant program.

LEGISLATION

Federally the Sexual Assault Services Program was funded to provide monies for victim services. The state stalking statute was revised, creating a law that will protect more victims and adding a component on harassment.

VISION STATEMENT

To eliminate sexual violence and stalking and to alleviate the suffering of those who have been victimized.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the West Virginia Foundation for Rape Information and Services is to promote the compassionate and just treatment of survivors and their loved ones, foster collaborative relationships, attitudinal and behavioral changes around sexual violence and stalking through education, victim services, and social change.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Marla Willcox Eddy, President
Family Counseling Connection
Charleston

Harriet Sutton, Vice-President
HOPE, Inc.
Fairmont

Patricia Bailey, Secretary
Women's Resource Center
Beckley

Judy King Smith, Treasurer
Rape and Domestic Violence
Information Center
Morgantown

**Ellen Allen
Gloria Martin**
Family Refuge Center
Lewisburg

Sharon Pressman
CONTACT Huntington
Huntington

Linda Reeves
Sexual Assault Help Center
Wheeling

Ann Smith
Shenandoah Women's Center
Martinsburg

Marcia White
Women's Aid in Crisis
Elkins

AGENCIES

CONTACT Rape Crisis Counseling Team
Huntington
304-399-1111 / 304-523-3447

Family Refuge Center
Lewisburg
304-645-6334

**REACH Program—
Family Counseling Connection**
Charleston
304-340-3676

**Rape and Domestic Violence
Information Center**
Morgantown
304-292-5100

Shenandoah Women's Center
Martinsburg
304-263-8292 / 304-725-7080 / 304-258-1078

**Task Force on Domestic Violence,
"HOPE, Inc."**
Fairmont
304-367-1100

**Upper Ohio Valley Sexual Assault
Help Center**
Wheeling
304-234-1783 / 304-234-8519 / 1-800-884-7242

Women's Aid In Crisis
Elkins
1-800-339-1185 / 304-636-8433

Women's Resource Center
Beckley
304-255-2559 / TTY 1-888-825-7835

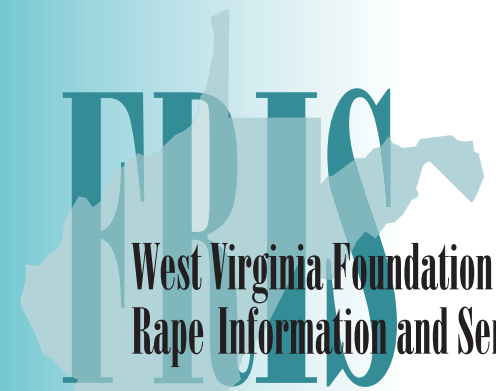
WVFRIS 25 Years: 1982-2007

The formation of the state's sexual assault coalition centered around the first monies 'set aside' by Congress in 1981 for sexual assault issues. In 1982 West Virginia's Office of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) was given the responsibility to implement a program in West Virginia and in June 1982 met with agencies that were providing a 'full range of rape intervention/prevention services.' The West Virginia Foundation for Rape Information and Services was incorporated on June 22, 1982 to serve as the statewide organization to coordinate sexual assault intervention and prevention initiatives. The four original founding centers of FRIS were located in Morgantown, Wheeling, Martinsburg, and Charleston. Over the next 14 years five additional centers became eligible for FRIS membership.

Services have increased in the past 25 years and FRIS continues to engage stakeholders on all levels in the journey to effectively address the issues of sexual assault and stalking in West Virginia. Collectively we have made amazing progress over the past 25 years. Collectively we can do even more.



ANNUAL 2007-08 REPORT



West Virginia Foundation for
Rape Information and Services, Inc.

304-366-9500 Fax 304-366-9501
www.fris.org

FRIS would like to thank the following funders who supported our work in 2007-2008: West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, U.S. Department of Justice through the Violence Against Women Office, and the West Virginia Division of Criminal Justice Services (STOP Violence Against Women funds).

PREVENTION/AWARENESS

Awareness and Informational Materials

Two displays were designed highlighting the coalition's services and projects. Two newsletters were developed: one on the history of the rape crisis centers and FRIS and the other on Sexual Assault Response Teams. Both the Sexual Assault Informational Handbook (5,460 copies) and the Multidisciplinary Protocol for Working with Sexual Assault Victims (1,000 copies) were updated due to recent legislative and procedural changes. Fifty billboards and 900 posters were displayed statewide featuring crisis hotline information. An Internet Safety Resource List for parents and children was developed and the SART Resource Manual was updated.

Resources purchased included two dvd's/curriculum for the rape crisis centers and colleges: WVU's 'Welcome to the Party' and Central Michigan's peer education bystander material 'No Zebras, No Excuses.' The centers received copies of Healthy Relationships: A Violence Prevention Curriculum, The Healing Years Documentary dvd, 7 Steps to Protecting our Children, and the dvd: Sexual Assault—Forensic and Clinical Management. One thousand lip balm advertising the national hotline number were purchased.

Key Players in Sexual Violence Prevention

This state multidisciplinary planning committee, charged with creating West Virginia's five year sexual violence prevention plan, met 6 times during the year. Assessments conducted included key informant interviews, focus groups, and surveys with adolescent health specialists, prevention resource officers, United Way directors, and school health center administrators. The committee compiled a state demographic profile for the draft state prevention plan due to the Centers for Disease Control in 2009. A training was sponsored on primary prevention for members and rape crisis center advocates.

Prevention Education Specialists and Programs

FRIS coordinated two capacity building meetings of the centers' Prevention Education Specialists to enhance the sharing of materials and techniques in providing effective prevention programs. Collectively the 9 rape crisis centers provided 1,159 programs in schools reaching 28,201 students. 63 programs on college campuses to 3506 students and 347 community programs reaching 13,746 people.



2008 Awareness Campaign

PARTNERSHIPS

Intercollegiate Council Against Sexual Violence

The Council met twice during the year, with two projects reaching milestone levels. WVU's film, 'Welcome to the Party' was completed and purchased for each campus. The web-based resident assistant training module on sexual assault, stalking and prevention was completed. It will be piloted on three campuses in August 2008. Two new council projects for 2008-09 include: 1. A national pilot site for Security on Campus to train advocates on victims' rights on campuses and 2. A survey of campus health centers on victim services.

Rural Advocate Network (RAN)

This new partnership was created through the Rural Grant Project funded by the Office on Violence Against Women. The 7 pilot site advocates meet quarterly to share resources and receive training to enhance their work in developing SARTs and services in their rural communities.

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Advisory Board

This partnership, through five meetings and interim committee work, resolved the compliance issue to meet the legislative changes in the Violence Against Women Act. Sexual assault victims seeking forensic exams without law enforcement involvement will now have the exam kits stored at Marshall University Forensic Science Center for 18 months. The Board is exploring distance learning for SANEs. It met with representatives of two nursing schools (Concord and Marshall) regarding incorporating SANE training into their curriculum. SAKITA, the web-based sexual assault kit tracking application, is undergoing a major revision. The SANE evaluation project, under the direction of the state's Statistical Analysis Center, is continuing.

SANE Mobile Project

The regional project has an expanded service area of five counties in north central West Virginia. The federal Office for Victims of Crime created a replication guide on the project and a section was added to the FRIS website to highlight it. FRIS assisted the project in preparing a national technical assistance grant application to enhance its effectiveness. The project was one of six (out of 25 applications) selected.

WV S.A.F.E. Partnership

The West Virginia Sexual Assault Free Environment disability partnership (FRIS, WV Department of Health and Human Resources, Northern West Virginia Center for Independent Living, WVU Center for Excellence in Disabilities) is in the second year of an initiative funded by the Office on Violence Against Women. The group met/conferenced 23 times, attended 2 national meetings, coordinated 3 pilot site meetings, and assessed the needs of sexual violence victims in three counties: Marion, Ohio, and Preston. They completed a Collaboration Charter, a Needs Assessment Plan, developed and implemented an Internet based survey for stakeholders, and conducted focus groups at the three pilot sites. The next steps are the completion of a Needs Assessment Report and a Strategic Plan.

Campus Health Care Provider Initiative

WVFREE, Advocates for Youth, FRIS and the WV Intercollegiate Council are partnering to implement a survey of campus health care providers regarding victim services.

Violence Against Women (VAW) Collaborative Group

FRIS joined this partnership to assist with the implementation of VAWA requirements. Collaborative members include the Division of Criminal Justice Services, the WV Department of Health and Human Resources, the WV Coalition Against Domestic Violence, and the Family Protection Services Board.

TRAININGS

Board of Directors Trainings

Two trainings were held for capacity building for the FRIS Board of Directors. A one day training on sustainability and succession planning was held, with materials developed specific to rape crisis centers. A 2 1/2 day Standards for Excellence training was coordinated for 19 center and coalition staff.

Primary Prevention Training

In November a training on primary prevention, presented by the Prevent Institute, was held for 46 Key Players members and rape crisis center staff.

Sexual Assault and Stalking Annual Symposium

A record five workshop tracks were available for the 198 participants at the annual symposium. Four national presenters participated, with FRIS staff presenting two sessions: 'SART Resource Manual' and 'Survivors and Technology'.

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Trainings

The four SANE trainings had record attendance: 2 adult SANE trainings (Huntington/26 attending and Clarksburg/26 attending) and 2 pediatric SANE trainings (Huntington/18 attending and Clarksburg/23 attending).

Additional Trainings

'How to Establish a SART' (25 attendees/statewide Victim Assistance Symposium) and the film/curriculum "Welcome to the Party" (37 Prevention Resource Officers) were presented in July. In October FRIS co-sponsored the statewide Violence Against Women Summit where FRIS staff presented 3 workshops: Primary Prevention (24 attending); Stalking 101 (30 attending), and Race, Religion and Rape (30 attending). FRIS co-sponsored a January training with the Regional Community Policing Institute on Acquaintance Sexual Assault (23 law enforcement officers, 17 advocates/school counselors attending). Also in January a 'Train the Trainers' on SARTs was held with the rural advocates. Thirty Family Court Judges and 10 court staff were trained on stalking and technology in June.

RECOGNITION

2008 Visionary Voice Award

Judy King Smith was our recipient of the National Sexual Violence Resource Center's 2008 Visionary Voice Award. She has served as the executive director of the Rape and Domestic Violence Information Center since 1979 and in 1982 was one of four founding members of FRIS. Judy has dedicated her career to ending violence against women.

STALKING RESOURCE CENTER

FRIS compiled 1000 stalking resource kits for statewide distribution. Governor Manchin proclaimed January Stalking Awareness Month. Stalking Awareness Packets were developed for advocates. The stalking statute was revised, necessitating changes to printed materials and the website.

STAFF

Nancy Hoffman
State Coordinator

Marsha Kisner
Rural Project Coordinator

Debra Lopez-Bonasso
Education/SANE Coordinator

Lois Manns
Stalking Project/College Council Coordinator

Steven Rioux
Disabilities Project Coordinator

Barb Sullivan
Special Projects Coordinator