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SPEAK UP! SPEAK OUT! BORDER TO BORDER

**SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS AND
PREVENTION MONTH**



ROMERO

APRIL 2004



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Speak Up! Speak Out! Border to Border

Dear Friends,

As we plan our activities for increasing awareness about sexual assault and abuse this April, let's remember the power of survivors' voices that we witnessed during the 2003 public awareness campaign. The message of speaking up and speaking out was literally heard from border to border throughout Texas and beyond our borders. We continue to see the positive effects of one victim/survivor at a time speaking the truth about sexual abuse and assault.

In April, Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month activities will also reach border to border throughout Texas. As we plan our efforts, let's look for "borders" that need crossing within our communities and within our own and others' perceptions about sexual assault and abuse. Let's look throughout our communities to find the voices of those who weren't able to be included in the first phase of the public awareness campaign: men, children, the elderly, survivors of all ages from every community and within our communities.

We know that the public awareness campaign was so effective because there were survivors ready to tell their truth. And we also know that the campaign was so effective because there were many people representing a broad range of interests and disciplines planning and working together to make it happen. While some were working to secure funds for the campaign, others were educating communities, others were providing a wide range of services to support survivors in finding their voices again, and others were bringing the vision of the campaign into tangible form.

As we plan for this April, let's look within our agencies for new ways to work together to get the job done. Let's look within our communities for other agencies to partner with, and let's look for ways to partner with other sexual assault programs within our area.

During Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month 2004, let's remember the power that one person has speaking the truth about sexual abuse and assault to change the perceptions and the lives of many others.

With respect for the work you do,

Linda Hunter
TAASA Board President

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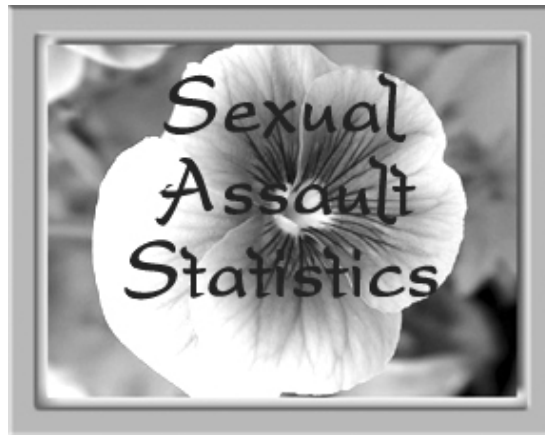
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First, choose your focus. Do you want to target a particular age group, profession, or topic? While looking through your options, keep in mind the specific needs of your area and any events that have recently occurred. In order for the awareness campaign to be a success, you must plan early and stay focused.

<p><i>January – February</i></p>	<p>Organize a committee to plan Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. Discuss possible project ideas (see "Suggestions for Projects/Events.") Make a time line including all tasks to be completed by April.</p>
<p><i>February 24 – 27</i></p>	<p>Call your Mayor's and County Commissioner's offices. Ask them to issue a proclamation establishing Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month in your city/county. Say that you will provide copy for a proclamation like the one Governor Perry has issued. Arrange for the proclamation to be issued publicly at the city council meeting, commissioner's court, or other appropriate forum at the beginning or just before the beginning of April.</p> <p>Call hosts/producers of any radio or television talk shows to schedule extra appearances during April.</p> <p>Contact target schools for special awareness events (i.e. essay contests, education programs, articles in school newspapers, fundraising). High school, family or marriage preparation classes or teen pregnancy classes are a possibility. University social work, psychology or sociology departments may also be interested.</p> <p>Contact your local libraries about a book display, survivor art, prose, poetry display or other programs during the month. You may just want to encourage them to purchase particular books or films for public use on the subject.</p> <p>Compile a list of places of worship, clubs and organizations that might provide an opportunity for a representative of your program to speak. Send them an appropriate letter and fact sheet (examples enclosed).</p>

<p><i>March 1 - 5</i></p>	<p>Early in the week call your contacts with the local media (radio, television, print) and tell them about the dates and overall objectives of SAAM. Tell them you will be sending them press releases (samples enclosed) and a fact sheet for use during April.</p> <p>Talk to local television news directors and ask them to come to your offices during April to tape an interview for a news or local interest program. Ask them to do a special series on your particular needs. Show them how they will affect your survivors, law enforcement and prosecution.</p> <p>Send radio stations PSA's (samples enclosed). Discuss coordinated media coverage with other centers in your viewing and listening area.</p>
<p><i>March 8-12</i></p>	<p>Firm up arrangements with the Mayor's Office and media. Invite local endorsers to participate in the proclamation signing and press conference.</p> <p>Prepare your statement for the press conference, choose a site and line up the participants. Appropriate sites might include your center, in front of the police station, at the courthouse, some other community building or an area of town that will illustrate a point you are trying to make.</p>
<p><i>April</i></p>	<p>Do interviews, programs and other planned events. At the end of the month, fill in your evaluation and return it to TAASA. Have a wonderful month!</p>



Approximately 1.9 million adult Texans (1,479,912 female and 372,394 male) or 12.6% of Texans have been sexually assaulted at some time in their lifetime. (Institute on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, The University of Texas at Austin, August 2003. *A Health Survey of Texans: A Focus on Sexual Assault.*)

One in 5 Texas women and 1 in 20 Texas men have been the victims of sexual assault. (Institute on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, The University of Texas at Austin, August 2003. *A Health Survey of Texans: A Focus on Sexual Assault.*)

Only 18% of victims report their assault to law enforcement. This includes 20% of females and 12% of males. (Institute on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, The University of Texas at Austin, August 2003. *A Health Survey of Texans: A Focus on Sexual Assault.*)

In Texas, only 1 in 10 sexual assault survivors seek medical treatment. (Institute on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, The University of Texas at Austin, August 2003. *A Health Survey of Texans: A Focus on Sexual Assault.*)

Almost one quarter of all sexual assaults involve some other kind of violence. (Institute on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, The University of Texas at Austin, August 2003. *A Health Survey of Texans: A Focus on Sexual Assault.*)

Most female victims are assaulted by a man they know. Usually this man is a relative other than the victim's spouse, ex-spouse, or live-in partner, or another man with whom they have been or are acquainted. (Institute on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, The University of Texas at Austin, August 2003. *A Health Survey of Texans: A Focus on Sexual Assault.*)

In 2003, Texans listed sexual assault among their top crime concerns—before gang violence and homicide. (KRC Research, 2002. *Findings from a Statewide Research Program.*)

Less than one-third of Texas adults and teens believe they are “at risk” for sexual assault. (KRC Research, 2002. *Findings from a Statewide Research Program.*)

Texans believe their state takes sexual assault and child sex abuse seriously, but would like to see more done to address the issues. (KRC Research, 2002. *Findings from a Statewide Research Program.*)

More than a quarter of Texas teens and adults are very misinformed about the parameters of sexual assault. (KRC Research, 2002. *Findings from a Statewide Research Program.*)

Texas teenagers do not see themselves as “at risk” for sexual assault, yet they are among the most likely to know a victim of sexual assault. (KRC Research, 2002. *Findings from a Statewide Research Program.*)

In 2002, forcible rapes reported to Texas law enforcement agencies increased 4.3% to 8,541 over the reported number of 8,191 in 2001. (*Texas Department of Public Safety. December 2002. Crime in Texas Report 2002.*)

In 2002 there were an estimated 95,136 forcible rapes in the United States, an increase of 4.7% when compared to the 2001 estimate. (FBI. 2002 Uniform Crime Reports)

6% of sexual assault victims faced an armed offender. (Rennison, C. June 2001. *Criminal Victimization 2000: Changes 1999-2000 with Trends 1993-2000.* Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics.)

Convicted rape and sexual assault offenders serving time in State prisons report that two-thirds of their victims were under the age of 18. Nearly 4 in 10 imprisoned violent sexual offenders said their victims were aged 12 or younger. (Bureau of Justice Statistics. August 1998. *Sex Offenses and Offenders.* Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice.)

In 90% of the rapes of children less than 12 years old, the child knew the rapist. Among rape victims 18 to 29 years old, two-thirds had a prior relationship with the rapist. (Bureau of Justice Statistics. August 1998. *Sex Offenses and Offenders.* Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice.)

Teens 16 to 19 were three and one half times more likely than the general population to be victims of rape, attempted rape or sexual assault. (Bureau of Justice Statistics. 1999. *National Crime Victimization Survey.* Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice.)

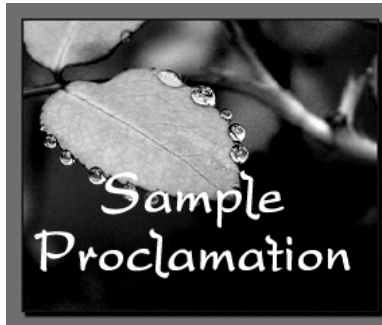
Adolescents ages 12 to 17 are more likely to be sexually assaulted by young adults ages 18 to 24. Children under 12 are more likely to be sexually assaulted by persons under the age 18. (Bureau of Justice Statistics. 1999. *National Crime Victimization Survey.* Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice.)

About 234,000 convicted sex offenders are under the care, custody, or control of corrections agencies on an average day. Nearly, 60% are under conditional supervision in the community. (Greenfield, L. February 1997. *Sex Offenses and Offenders.* Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics.)

Four out of five students, both males and females, report experiencing sexual harassment. (American Association of University Women Educational Foundation. 2001. *Hostile Hallways: Bullying, Teasing, and Sexual Harassment.* Washington, DC: AAUW.)

The number of boys reporting harassment increased from 49% in 1993 to 56% in 2001. (American Association of University Women Educational Foundation. 2001. *Hostile Hallways: Bullying, Teasing, and Sexual Harassment.* Washington, DC: AAUW.)

One in five children (10 to 17 years old) receive unwanted sexual solicitations online. (Finkelhor, D., Mitchell, K., and Wolak, J. March 2001. *Highlights of the Youth Internet Safety Survey.* Washington, DC: U.S. Department of Justice, Office of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.)



Contact your mayor's and/or Commissioner's offices to find out what the procedures are for getting a proclamation in your city/county. In most cases, you will be required to submit the text of the proclamation. Please alter this **sample** in any way appropriate, or compose your own.

**SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH
2004 PROCLAMATION**

Sexual assault, a violent and devastating crime, affects men, women and children of all races, ages and economic situations.

The consequences of sexual assault are often severe and long lasting. In addition, the risk of developing post traumatic stress disorder, depression and many other psychological or physical ailments increases dramatically for victims of sexual assault.

Each year, the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault, in conjunction with other organizations, designates the month of April for an educational campaign to promote awareness and to build upon the network of support that has been mobilized to address this issue.

The association and its partners provide training to rape crisis and law enforcement personnel, as well as to volunteers and staff of service agencies and community groups. They also provide outreach to schools and information on topical issues related to sexual assault.

At this time, therefore, I encourage all Texans to increase their awareness and work to prevent sexual assault in communities across this great state. Together, united in this effort, we can continue to make a difference.

Therefore, I, (Mayor or Judge), do hereby proclaim April, 2004, Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month in (City or County) Texas and urge the appropriate recognition thereof.



PLANT A GARDEN

Student Activity

Who: Students
How: This activity is similar to the one that some abortion opponents use. Have a class make plastic flowers out of plastic six-pack can holders. Put them on shish kabob skewers and spray paint. Plant enough in a central location to show how many men and women are sexually assaulted in a 24-hour period. School courtyards are very good for this. This activity is very visual and is a great opportunity for media attention.

WATCH THAT DRINK CAMPAIGN (WTD)

Community Activity

Safe Place
 Austin, Texas

What: Focuses on educating club goers about date rape drugs and how to stay safe while having fun. It is a one-night event.
Who: Volunteers and staff from the center distribute posters and coasters with the WTD message to clubs, restaurants, bars and any other establishment that sells alcohol. The message reminds patrons to watch their drinks and their friends' drinks, and instructs them how to get help if they think they've been drugged. (Safe Place conducts their campaigns in September, when students are returning to school and in the spring when prior to Mari Gras.)
How: Obtain support from local clubs, bars, restaurants, etc. to participate in the campaign. Can acknowledge those who participate in your newsletter and/or website. To obtain posters and beverage coasters, local print shops can be contacted. (Financial contributions for Safe Place were donated by Budweiser and Shiner Bock Beer.)

BOOKMARKS

Community Activity

What: Use bookmarks as a publicity tool.
How: Design a bookmark with sexual assault statistics and information about your center. Distribute stacks of bookmarks to libraries, bookstores, universities and schools in your community.

NEW

SEED PACKETS

Staff and Community Activity

Highland Lakes Family Crisis Center,
Marble Falls, Texas

What: This project is about increasing our communities' awareness utilizing seed packets as an advertising tool.

Who: Free to the community

How: www.seedpromotions.com provides a sample packet to view on line. The seed packet lets the consumer choose their own heading and logo (business name and address) for the front of the packet and on the back will be information about your center, i.e. services provided and for whom, hours, website, catch phrases/motto, etc. The type of seed you choose will also be placed on the front of the packet.

Contact your local grocery store or Wal-Mart and speak to someone about passing out the packets on a certain day and time. They can also be handed out at any other events you hosted or placed in the survivor care packages.

DESK DECORATION CONTEST

Staff and Community Activity

What: Sponsor a contest for your staff and volunteers to come up with the best, most creative desk decorations and design that incorporate the "*Speak Up, Speak Out: Border To Border*" theme.

How: Provide a box of supplies (can be purchased at reasonable prices at most floral/craft and "dollar stores." Then seek permission to transfer the desk design/decoration to desks or counters at highly visible locations, such as the front counter of police or sheriffs departments or the reception areas of courts or probation agencies, for the duration of Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

Agency Activity

What: April is also National Volunteer Recognition Month. Honor your program's volunteers by producing a banner with the heading, "Speak Up, Speak Out: Border To Border" at [name of agency] – Thanks to Our Volunteers.

How: Take photos of your volunteers and display. If you have an artist amongst you draw a picture of a tree in bud and write the names of the volunteers on the buds.

MOCK TRIAL

Staff and Community Activity

Mujeres Unidas/ Women Together
Mc Allen, Texas

What: Raise awareness of the role the criminal justice system plays in sexual violence cases.

How: Recruit local attorneys, judge and volunteers to conduct the mock trial. Include your local Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner to serve as a witness, and lab technician for forensic testing. The mock trial can be held at a local university or college if the courthouse is not available. This activity incorporates all entities involved with sexual violence cases and raises awareness of what a victim of sexual violence may experience throughout legal proceedings. To ensure that you will have all components of a trial it is best to draft a script with an attorney experienced with sexual violence cases. This project would need at least five months preparation time.

<p>WALK-A-THON AGAINST ABUSE</p> <p>Community Activity</p> <p>Hale County Crisis Center, Plainview, Texas</p>	<p>What: A walk of moderate length (about three miles), with the option to walk a shorter distance (i.e. around a park) with the purpose of raising money for sexual assault services.</p> <p>Who: Service organizations, banks, police departments and organizations, fitness clubs, etc. are invited to challenge each other to achieve the most participant registrations. Set a minimum contribution (\$5.00, perhaps) to participate in the event.</p> <p>How: The event can be publicized and covered by local radio and television stations and advertised in local papers. Ask the Mayor to issue a Sexual Assault Awareness Month Proclamation to kick off the event. Present representatives from the local law enforcement agencies, the district attorney's office, and hospital emergency room with framed certificates of appreciation. Get prizes donated to give to the organizations/individuals with the most participation. Success for this type of event depends on getting organizations and individuals involved and prizes committed well in advance.</p>
<p>CHILDREN'S T-SHIRT DISPLAY</p> <p>Child and Community Activity</p> <p>The Children's Assessment Center, Austin, Texas</p>	<p>What: The purpose of the activity is to allow child sexual abuse survivors to express their feelings through the art they create on child size T-shirts displayed for the public. This activity heightens the community's awareness of the impact and scope of child sexual abuse.</p> <p>Who: The clinician should conduct the activity with willing juvenile participants who are victims of child sexual abuse.</p> <p>How: The clinician's role is to supply the materials and emotional support through the project. The clinician is responsible for explaining the purpose of the project and getting the child's permission to display the t-shirt in public. The t-shirts will be displayed on a clothesline with a poster explaining the display. The names of the artist will not be used as part of the display to protect the child's privacy. When clinicians go out to train they can take a few to heighten community awareness.</p>
<p>MEET WITH NEWSPAPER EDITORIAL BOARDS</p>	<p>What: Increase public awareness of sexual assault through the newspaper.</p> <p>How: Solicit a meeting with your local newspaper's editorial board, focusing on how sexual assault services have made your community a safer and better place to live. Ask survivors who have had a positive influence on public policy or community safety to accompany you. Provide editorial board members with this year's theme, along with supportive resources from this year's resource guide and encourage them to write an editorial about the importance of sexual assault services and the contributions they have made to your community.</p>

<p>“CELEBRATE THE CHILDREN” DAY FAIR</p> <p>Community Activity</p> <p>Denton County Friends of the Family, Denton</p>	<p>What: “Celebrate the Children” Day Fair is a one-day event open to children who are agency clients and from low-income families.</p> <p>How: Invite twelve or more local organizations to set up fun carnival-type booths. In our area, Child Protective Services had a cakewalk, a local sorority helped the children make noodle art, one organization provided face painting, the local police department provided bike safety lessons, the local fire department brought a truck for kids to climb on and a clown puppet and magic show was available to entertain children. One center volunteer made wood cutouts of Disney characters to decorate the fair. Local businesses provided free food for the participants and door prizes were donated.</p> <p>The booth provided by the rape crisis center can provide information about “good touch, bad touch” or other age appropriate information. This is also a great opportunity to network with other allied agencies.</p> <p>Publicize the fair at your agency, to your clients and through the local WIC, food stamp, and CPS offices using fliers. The event was not publicly advertised, as its purpose was to provide children who normally are not able to attend fairs with a day of fun activities.</p>
<p>POETRY/ESSAY CONTEST</p> <p>Student Activity</p>	<p>What: A poetry or essay contest about the impact of sexual assault /violence.</p> <p>Who: Junior high or high school students</p> <p>How:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Send a letter/flier to all schools in your area at least eight weeks before you announce the winners. Savings bonds could be used as prizes for the winning entries. Make the deadline for entries at least four weeks before announcing the winners. 2. Pick a committee to judge the entries (local law enforcement personnel, district attorney’s office personnel, medical center personnel, etc. or your own advisory board if you have one). 3. Display winning pieces at an open house or some other function your program is having during SAAM and award the prizes at that function. Be sure and get signed releases from the winners or state in the letter/fliers that “all material submitted will become the property of (agency name)”. 4. The winning entries could be reprinted in your local newsletter, newspaper or magazine and/or in the school newspaper of the winning author.

<p>ART CONTEST</p> <p>Student Activity</p> <p>Mujeres Unidas/ Women Together Mc Allen, Texas</p>	<p>What: An art contest about sexual assault or the impact of sexual violence.</p> <p>How: Preparation would be similar to the Poetry/Essay Contest. If saving bonds are not available donations from your local mall or other retail store make great prizes as well. Copies of artwork may be displayed along with agency information and facts at local libraries.</p>
<p>“KIDS AGAINST VIOLENCE” MARCH</p> <p>Community Activity</p>	<p>What:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide an opportunity for children to participate against violence. 2. Give children a sense of control over their environment. 3. Inspire children to make positive changes. 4. Balance negative influence of sexual aggression in their lives. <p>Who:</p> <p><u>Schools:</u> contact administrators/teachers to help mobilize students.</p> <p><u>Youth organizations:</u> identify and contact local youth organizations e.g., Boy/Girl Scouts, Little League, and Big Brothers/Big Sisters.</p> <p><u>Church youth groups:</u> identify and contact youth ministry of local churches, e.g., Sunday School classes.</p> <p><u>Neighborhood organizations:</u> contact local librarians for a list of organizations and post flyers to advertise the event to the public.</p> <p><u>Media:</u> contact local newspapers, radio stations and television stations for publicity.</p> <p><u>Law enforcement agencies:</u> contact police or sheriff’s department for traffic patrol and to ensure order and safety during the march.</p> <p>How:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide materials for children to make posters and slogans at the gathering place for the march, such as a local park. Encourage slogans to be written in different languages. Give awards to well-written and creative slogans. The march should last about 30 to 45 minutes and should be in the neighborhood around the park. 2. Contact local merchants to sponsor the event e.g., pizza or hamburger restaurants can provide food and drinks for the children after the march and give out toys and games for prizes. 3. Invite local celebrities to come out and talk to children about ending behavior related to sexual aggression. This will help you get media coverage. 4. Invite other local human service organizations to set up resource booths in the park where the march will come to an end. This is a good opportunity to involve and network with other agencies.

<p>INVOLVING JUVENILE OFFENDERS</p>	<p>What: Think of creative ways to involve juvenile offenders to support 2004 Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month activities.</p> <p>How: Juvenile offenders might provide community service hours to put up SAAM green ribbons and at the same time fulfill their accountability agreements.</p>
<p>SELF-DEFENSE DEMONSTRATIONS</p> <p>Staff and Community Activity</p> <p>Mujeres Unidas/ Women Together Rape Crisis Center Mc Allen, Texas</p>	<p>What: Utilize this activity to raise awareness of sexual violence.</p> <p>Who: This activity is well received by college/university students.</p> <p>How: Recruit an expert in self-defense from your community and provide a brief presentation on sexual violence prior to hands on demonstrations.</p>
<p>LET HEALING RING</p> <p>Community Activity</p> <p>Georgia Network to End Sexual Assault- Atlanta, Georgia</p>	<p>What: The goal of the event is to provide an avenue for churches to let their congregations know that survivors of rape/sexual assault are supported.</p> <p>How: On an agreed upon day, churches from across the state will simultaneously ring their bells 78 times. (According to the National Bureau of Statistics, Office of Justice Programs, each hour, 78 women become victims of sexual assault.) If your church has electronic chimes rather than bells, you can schedule them to play for 1 minute and 15 seconds. Psalm 13 as a prayer of healing during the services before the bell ringing and/or posted a note in the weekly bulletin explaining why the bells would be ringing can also be included.</p>
<p>SUMMER SAFETY CAMPAIGN</p> <p>Community Activity</p> <p>Big Lake, Texas STAR Program</p>	<p>What: This campaign brings community awareness to child abduction and child sexual predators.</p> <p>How: The STAR members prepare statistic sheets, reading material, and flyers on knowing where their children are at all times. All material distributed was found on the internet at www.missingkids.com. The committee members go door to door in the community distributing the material on the topic of the importance of keeping their children safe.</p>



- * **Be original**-- Don't let your cause get lost amongst all the others. Unless a signature event is still well received and anticipated, try a new direction.
- * **Keep it simple**-- Bigger isn't always better. Sometimes a few, easy projects are more effective than one larger, labor-intensive event that stresses everyone out.
- * **Set priorities**-- Whom do you really want to target? For example, if you want more visibility within your Hispanic community, target your appeal to that group. Do what will work, not necessarily how you have done things in the past.
- * **Target youth**-- We know this age group is over-represented in victimization so focus attention specifically to reach them. Call the high school newspaper and talk to the editor about running an article or interview. Invite teens to participate on your SAAPM planning committee.
- * **Distribute literature**-- Keep supplying the same old places, but expand to include new places, i.e. doctor/dentist waiting rooms, laundry mats, grocery store kiosks, bail bondsmen offices, liquor stores, check-cashing places (where do people in your community congregate?)
- * **Diversify your projects**—You can't be all things to all people, but you can try. Some people will never participate in a rally or vigil but they will take a self-defense course. Try to mix the practical, with the spiritual, the political, etc.



- ◆ Have bookstores create displays/readings of pertinent books.
- ◆ Design a book or poster display for public school libraries. Encourage them to feature publications on Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month handouts.
- ◆ Teal is the color that signifies support for Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. Tie a teal ribbon to your car, your hair, your clothing, etc. Start a green ribbon campaign in your community.
- ◆ Give a workshop for other professionals.
- ◆ Provide self-defense/assertiveness workshops for the public.
- ◆ Ask local government officials to fly flags at half-mast for sexual assault victims who were killed during the past year.
- ◆ Use donated space on a billboard to put up a message.
- ◆ Create window displays in storefronts or restaurants.
- ◆ Sponsor a film festival with discussions following each film.
- ◆ Work with sexuality/health educators from schools and community clinics (i.e. Planned Parenthood) to focus on healthy sexuality as a positive approach to prevention.
- ◆ Contact a local celebrity to do a PSA or to endorse Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month
- ◆ Create and display a banner or artwork created by survivors.
- ◆ Hold an open house or neighborhood block event.
- ◆ Table everywhere you can! Distribute ribbons, information, newsletters, etc. to raise awareness.
- ◆ Encourage continuing participation from your community in the effort to end sexual violence.
- ◆ Sponsor a local art show featuring survivor's art – a library, bank or community college might be willing to lend space.
- ◆ Host a "Speak Out" featuring survivors prose and poetry.
- ◆ Co-sponsor a workshop or mini conference for other professions.

- ◆ Promote letters to the editor by survivors.
- ◆ Partner with a business and insert information in a mailing to your community (i.e. utility bill, bank statement, etc.)
- ◆ Host an open forum meeting on a controversial event that happened in your community involving sexual assault.
- ◆ Host a rally or candlelight vigil.
- ◆ Plan a special fundraiser for April.
- ◆ Ask a local youth group if they would like to sponsor a car wash in your name.
- ◆ Raise funds for your center by holding a 'Penny Drive.' Contact your local media (T.V., radio, newspaper, etc.) to advertise the event. Flyers are also a good idea. Finding an approved central location, like your local supermarket or Wal-Mart is a good idea as well
- ◆ Distribute green ribbons or bracelets.
- ◆ Distribute brochures or flyers.
- ◆ Distribute pens/pencils.
- ◆ Distribute bookmarks.
- ◆ Hang posters.
- ◆ Set-up information booths or tables.
- ◆ Set-up window displays.
- ◆ Set-up an absent victim lunch/dinner place setting.
- ◆ Set-up art, wreath, or decorated tree display.
- ◆ Get church bells ringing.
- ◆ Get people together for dialogue and support.
- ◆ Get commitments from adults and youth around you to end sexual violence.
- ◆ Hold a luncheon or brown bag luncheon to discuss sexual violence issues.
- ◆ Hold a career interest meeting.
- ◆ Thank public officials and civil servants for their work.
- ◆ Visit rape crisis centers/sexual assault survival centers.
- ◆ Write letters to news and magazine organizations.



To: All Green Ribbon Week Participants

From: Byron Thompson, Youth Services Coordinator

Re: Green Ribbon Campaign Packet

Date: January 15, 2004

Promoting dignity, respect, and safe peer relationships on school campuses

This Green Ribbon Week Campaign section for youth leaders and their adult sponsors is intended to help generate creative ideas for middle school, high school, college and university Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month activities. Promoting student safety and awareness on campuses is critical to preventing sexual assaults, empowering youth development and helping to ensure communities across Texas respond appropriately to protect and support sexual abuse victims and survivors. Your commitment to ending sexual violence is an inspiration to every generation, younger and older, to speak up and speak out. A wide range of issues regarding sexual assault are available to address, and with your creativity, the sample risk reduction activities, announcement scripts and awareness initiatives included in this section will help you enjoy a successful Green Ribbon Week.

Youth and adults, just like yourself, throughout Texas, around the country and the world are sharing in this commitment to realize the vision of a community free from sexual violence. Visit www.taasa.org for more information and click on “links” to discover what many others are doing to help.

Where do I start?

Contact whomever approved or facilitated your school education presentations or workshops. Then:

- schedule a meeting with them and share this Green Ribbon Week information, or
- schedule a meeting and leave a copy of this Green Ribbon Week information with them ahead of time so that they can review it.

The success of the implementation of this campaign **will depend on your partnership with school contacts and/or officials.** This may include counselors, the school's Parent Teacher Association (PTA), specific teachers or campus-based organizations such as Communities In Schools (CIS).

How do I decide how many ribbons to order?

While it is “Green Ribbon Week” this year TAASA is providing green bracelets for students to wear. We hope this will encourage more students to wear the symbol of awareness and prevention of sexual assault.

Ideally the bracelets should be a part of a program or activity at a school where you have already made presentations. The logistics of handing out the bracelets is really up to the school so they should tell you how many they are willing to distribute. A maximum of 1000 bracelets will be offered during the initial ordering phase to assure an equitable distribution to all interested programs. Subsequently, a waiting list will include all of those interested in acquiring additional bracelets

Does a school have to agree to everything on the list in order to get bracelets?

Absolutely not! In the past, one of the favorite and least taxing of the school activities is the week of announcements during Green Ribbon Week. A school could commit to only do the announcements and give out the bracelets on that day.

What if I cannot get the whole campus to participate in the campaign?

You might suggest the campaign as a pilot experience to a few teachers. For example:

- An Art or English teacher can implement one or more of the Compassionate Creativity Challenges with their own class, and order enough ribbons for those classes.
- Make a cassette recording of youths reading the announcement scripts so that an individual teacher can play the announcements in his or her own classroom.

Date

Dear (Principal, Counselor, or Communities In Schools Coordinator):

Texas Governor, Rick Perry, has proclaimed the month of April Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month in Texas. To increase public awareness about the problem of sexual assault and to encourage citizen involvement, the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault and the Office of the Attorney General have adopted the theme: "**Speak Up, Speak Out: Border to Border.**" This theme recognizes the unique challenges of providing awareness, education, services and advocacy in a border state. Furthermore, it encourages listening to the many voices of sexual assault/abuse survivors across Texas and beyond our borders.

 (Your center's name here) is extending an invitation to local schools to proactively support Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month on behalf of our youth by participating in risk reduction activities that focus on gender bullying and peer sexual harassment.

Reports of student-on-student sexual harassment among middle school and high school students are increasing, and peer-to-peer sexual harassment often occurs openly in schools, in front of school personnel and other students. (The Girls Report, *National Council for Research on Women*)

Locally, girls and boys often as young as 10, suffer sexual harassment in their schools on a daily basis. The sexual harassment may be manifested as lewd comments, sexual rumors, obscene gestures, sexual propositions, public humiliation and/or fondling.

The Green Ribbon Campaign offers schools the opportunity to promote campus safety in conjunction with Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Enclosed you will find a variety of activity ideas and school announcement scripts that may be utilized during Green Ribbon Week, **April 5- 9th, 2004**. By implementing some or all of these activities you will participate in a statewide effort to promote dignity, respect and safe peer relationships on school campuses.

Sincerely,

Your Name

Green Ribbon Week Student Activity Ideas

Order Green Gibbons (actually bracelets this year) and encourage as many people as possible to wear during the week as a sign of their commitment to raise awareness and prevent sexual violence (order form page 23).

Have students sign a **Student Pledge** to end sexual violence (see sample pledge pg 24).

Have different students read **School Announcements** regarding gender respect and have classrooms take notes of announcements (see scripts and notes, pg. 25-26). If school announcements are not feasible, teachers may have students record the messages and play the recording as time permits in the classroom.

Have an **Art/Poetry/Essay/Song Lyrics Contest** and focus on the impact of peer sexual harassment. (See Compassionate Creativity Contest information, (pg. 27-31).

Gender respect; *what it means to me*

Words can hurt; *the impact of sexual harassment*

The difference between flirting and sexual harassment

Personal boundaries; *our right to decide how close others can get*

Speak Up. Speak Out

Respect

Distribute and discuss the **Sexual Harassment and Stalking Report Form** (pg 32).

Sponsor a **Take Back the Night March or Rally** (pg 33).

Submit **articles to school and local newspapers** (see “articles” section of this booklet).

Display **self-help information posters**.

Theme: "What can you do if you are harassed?" Have students work with teachers to identify appropriate display areas to hang message posters. (*Ideally, they should be hung throughout the school*)

Theme: "What can you do if another student is being harassed?"

Gender respect puzzle/word search activity sheets may be used to reinforce risk reduction messages after students have received information on the issue.

Have a **Green Ribbon pizza party** for intermediate school students. The class with the most students wearing their ribbons on a designated day wins.

Critique mass media messages on TV, Radio, Magazines, Movies, Billboards and other advertisements, discuss with classmates and draft a formal statement of based on principles of equality, respect, dignity, non-violence, etc.

Create symbolic expressions related to sexual assault, like a clothes line of decorated t-shirts, a collection of wreaths for victims and survivors or some other idea.

Green Ribbon Order Form

The orders may be mailed or faxed.

Incomplete order forms will delay the shipping process.

The ribbons **will** be shipped the week of March 15, 2004 and as requested thereafter.

How many schools will participate?

How many classes will participate?

What will they do?

What other youth activities/events will be a part of the Green Ribbon Campaign?

How many ribbons will you need?

The ribbons are actually green bracelets made of paper that will generally last for about a week.

Mailing Information:

Name:

Position:

Center:

Address:

City:

Zip Code:

Phone:

TAASA

Phone: 512-474-7190

Fax: 512-474-6190

701 N. Lamar, Ste 200

Austin, TX 78752

School Announcements

Day 1 Announcement

Governor Rick Perry has proclaimed the month of April Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month in Texas. Our school has been invited to participate in Green Ribbon Week, a component of SAAPM. We will be promoting campus safety through gender respect activities all this week.

Day 2 Announcement

From 7th to 9th grades, sexual harassment is the most common form of sexual abuse among peers (for both boys and girls).

Sexual harassment is any behavior of a sexual nature that:

- is unwanted & not liked
- is unwelcome
- occurs on a repeated basis

Day 3 Announcement

Sexual harassment can be:

- physical (touching, grabbing, "panting")
- verbal (teasing, sexual jokes, rumors, telephone calls)
- written (notes, letters, email)

Every student has the right to feel safe at school. If someone is harassing you and you don't feel comfortable telling them to stop, make sure you tell a teacher, counselor, or principal immediately.

Day 4 Announcement

Flirting and sexual harassment are not the same. There are big differences between the two. A behavior is called flirting when it is wanted by both. Sexual harassment is not wanted. Flirting can make you feel flattered and attractive. Sexual harassment makes you feel put down and ugly. Flirting can go both ways. Sexual harassment is one-sided. Make sure you're flirting and not hurting.

Day 5 Announcement

Students sexually harass because:

- of peer pressure
- they think it's funny
- they think everyone does it
- they don't know it's wrong

Sexual harassment isn't just embarrassing, it can hurt a student's health, self-esteem, and grades.

REMEMBER YOUR PLEDGE TO RESPECT YOURSELF AND OTHERS AND HELP OUR CAMPUS BE SAFE FOR EVERYONE THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

School Announcements: Student Notes Form

Day 1 Announcement

Governor Rick Perry has proclaimed the month of April _____ month in Texas. Our school has been invited to participate in _____

Day 2 Announcement

From _____ to _____ grades, sexual harassment _____ among peers (for both boys and girls).

Sexual harassment is any behavior of a sexual nature that:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

Day 3 Announcement

Sexual harassment can be:

physical (_____, ” _____ “).
verbal (_____).
written (_____).

Every student has the right _____, if someone is harassing you and you don't feel comfortable telling him or her to stop, be sure to tell _____.

Day 4 Announcement

Flirting and sexual harassment are _____, there are _____ between the two.

A behavior is called flirting when it is _____ by both.

Sexual harassment is _____.

Flirting can make you feel _____ while sexual harassment makes you feel _____ and _____.

Day 5 Announcement

Students sexually harass because:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

Compassionate Creativity Challenge

This section includes guidelines and handout samples for a "Compassionate Creativity Challenge" (the title is optional) that can be organized by instructors within the schools. The "challenge" offers a series of creative expression venues through which students may express themselves, share concerns and personal safety tips through graphic art, song lyrics, essays, poetry, button and/or bookmark designs.

This section also includes sample artist registration forms. These registration forms include a parent release that allows your agency to formally recognize the artist and possibly use the art in future publications or materials.

Teachers can help students identify areas of the school policy or student code of conduct that could also be highlighted on the poster to affirm student rights.

Compassionate Creativity Challenge Guide

Getting the word out

Make sure to target your audiences with age-appropriate letters and flyers.

In addition to targeting the schools, local newspapers, community newsletters, and local youth organizations may also help you get the word out.

Make the deadline for entries at least four weeks prior to the recognition event.

Releases

Make sure to use the enclosed parental release forms or to design your own; this will allow you to keep all art and written entries for future use. Securing parental consent for the identification of youth artists and authors will also allow your agency to announce and recognize the artists publicly, if they wish.

Recognition/Distribution

Besides using local newsletters, newspapers, or magazines, the entries could also be reprinted in youth organization newsletters and in your agency's future publications. Graphic designs could be used for buttons, bookmarks, mouse pads, agency calendars, school book covers or banners. Remember, both the students and the schools deserve recognition. Groups such as Partners In Education and school parent networks could also help with recognition activities.

COMPASSIONATE CREATIVITY CHALLENGE

Decide to End Sexual Violence

**Discover the Artist in You and Develop Your Talents—
You Can: draw/paint a poster or mural; write an essay,
poem or song; create graphic designs and more**

Enter the Compassionate Creativity Challenge for poetry, essays, song lyrics, art, and/or graphic designs and help end sexual assault by promoting awareness, respect, dignity and healthy relationships.

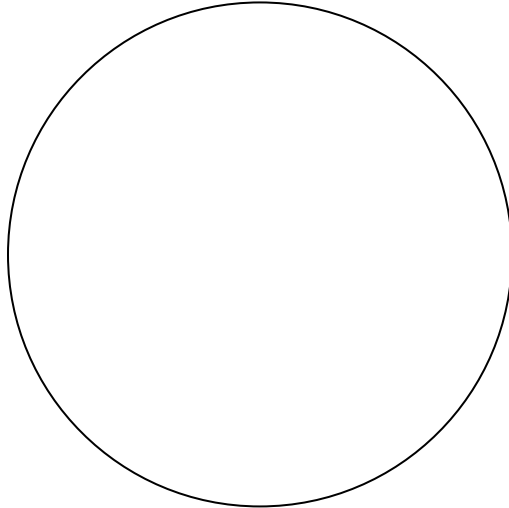
Pick up a registration form [HERE!](#)

Call _____ for more information, and
Enter as many times as you like!

Entry Due Date:

Art Registration Form Sample

**GENDER RESPECT
BUTTON**



Mail or return all entries by: _____

To: _____

Name:

Grade:

School:

Teacher:

I understand that all material submitted will become the property of _____.
If my child's entry is selected, I give permission to _____ to
publish my child's name as the artist of this entry.

(Print student's name)

Parent Signature

Date

Gender Respect Bookmark

Mail or return all entries by:

To:

Grade:

School:

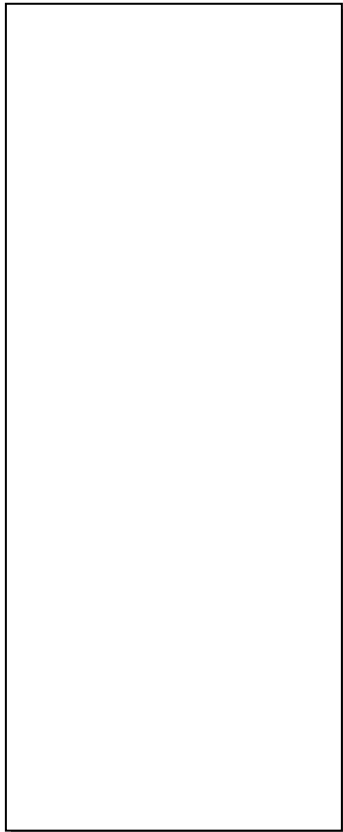
Teacher:

I understand that all material submitted will become the property of (school's name) if my child's entry is selected, I give permission to (school's name) to publish my child's name as the artist of this entry.

(Print Student's Name)

(Parent's Signature)

(Date)



Compassionate Creativity Challenge Guide for Artist

Possible Themes:

Gender respect; *what it means to me*

Words can hurt; *the impact of sexual harassment*

The difference between flirting and sexual harassment

Personal boundaries; *our right to decide how close others can get*

Speak Up. Speak Out

Respect

Format

Students may submit an essay, a poem, or lyrics to a song they've written.

Essays should be a minimum of 250 words and a maximum of 500 words.

Poems could be free verse or rhymed.

Song lyrics could be in the form of ballads, corridos, rap, pop, etc.

Only the lyrics are necessary, composing the music is optional.

Target Group

Who is the message for? Teachers could help students identify their target audience. Possible targets:

Everyone

Girls

Boys

Victims

Perpetrators

Bystanders

Language

Students are encouraged to use appropriate language to express themselves. Respect, dignity, and emotional safety are important for both artist and audience (intended and unintended audiences).

Sexual Harassment and Stalking Report Form

Date:

From:

To: *(Teacher, Counselor, Principal)*

RE: *(Sexual Harassment or Stalking)*

The following is a summary of what has been said/done to me or around me.

What happened:

Where it happened:

When it happened:

How many times it happened:

Who is responsible:

Who else might have seen or heard what happened to me:

I need help confronting this person. (yes/no)

I confronted this person on

(date).

I have not confronted this person.

I already told :

(list names)

Signed,

(Student)

Take Back the Night

Checklist of Tasks

A Take Back the Night march is an event designed to raise awareness of violence—especially sexual violence, and to show that participants are committed to eliminating violence. The event typically features an organized march through an area where violence has occurred in the past and usually ends with a rally where speakers, performers and survivors participate.

Coordination of Tasks

- Designate project coordinators
- Develop a list of potential endorsers
- Schedule planning sessions
- Develop a “Countdown Calendar” of tasks
- Recruit volunteers from endorsing organizations
- Develop a list of potential speakers, performers and survivors
- Design a logo

Correspondence

- Write letters to potential endorsers
- Write letters to potential speakers, performers and survivors
- Invite survivors and their supporters
- Invite elected officials and dignitaries
- Send thank you letters to everyone

Logistics

- Plan Route of march and site for rally
- Obtain legal permits
- Secure street closures for march route
- Arrange for security
- Arrange for music
- Secure tables
- Secure sound system and stage or platform
- Secure Color Guard or Marshals
- Prepare sign-in sheets
- Secure candles or glow sticks
- Arrange for a clean-up crew

Publicity

- Develop and distribute flyers
- Design and produce Programs
- Produce and sell buttons
- Produce and sell t-shirts
- Prepare banners
- Organize a poster-making party
- Contact Media with public services announcements, news releases, follow-up phone calls

(Developed by the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Rape)



The media is a critical partner in our efforts to prevent sexual assault by promoting awareness. Media attention not only raises awareness and educates, it helps influence decision makers, funders, and potential supporters. Some of the many ways to approach the media include:

- ◆ Distributing news releases
- ◆ Sponsoring a public forum or press conference
- ◆ Submitting a letter-to-the-editor
- ◆ Meeting with editorial boards
- ◆ Speaking directly with reporters who cover sexual assault issues
- ◆ Working with your local newspaper on a special insert for April
- ◆ Informing newsletters and periodicals
- ◆ Appearing on public affairs television or radio programs
- ◆ Interviews during sports breaks

When working with the media, it is important to have a strategy for April and for the entire year:

1. SET GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR YOUR MEDIA EFFORTS.

The first step in planning a media strategy is to identify your goals and objectives. Your goals may be as general as educating the public about the importance of preventing sexual assault. Your objectives should be more specific and state what you want to accomplish and when you want it done. This gives you a means to measure your progress.

2. DEFINE THE AUDIENCE

Decide who it is you really want to reach—state or local “opinion leaders,” policy makers, or the general public. This will help you determine which news format will work best for your message.

3. SELECT THE BEST APPROACH

- ◆ Letters to the editor. To express your position in your own words or respond to an article or editorial, write a letter to the editor.
- ◆ News releases. By distributing news releases at meetings or events, your organization can improve public awareness of your efforts and reinforce the message that you are sending to policy makers. Reporters may use information from your news releases to supplement stories they are writing or may be inspired to write stories based on the content of the releases.
- ◆ Holding a press conference. A press conference gives you the opportunity to announce your efforts as an organization and explain your public awareness effort.

Radio/TV public affairs programs: Radio and TV public affairs programs are always looking for programming ideas. These programs guarantee that you will reach a broad audience. Public Service Announcements (PSAs) can be effective as well. See enclosed samples.

REMEMBER:

- ◆ Media contacts are not on your schedule. To work effectively with the media, be available to compromise on scheduling and always be prepared to make a statement when contacted.
- ◆ Find news items or events in your community and provide your expertise to the media. Let them know who the experts are.
- ◆ Remember that news happens that may supercede your story, keep in touch with the media and see if your story could run later.
- ◆ Watch what you say. Be prepared for any type of questions. Know your stuff! Practice with a co-worker or a friend so that you are prepared for anything. The media is often looking for a good story and you want to provide them with the facts. As an expert, know all of the facts before speaking to the media.

Adapted from the National Committee for the Prevention of Child Abuse, Partners for Prevention: The Media. Update by Carla Ferrucci MCASA Staff February, 1998.

SAMPLE LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Name
Agency
Address
City, State, Zip

Dear Editor:

As a citizen of city, county, legislative district, I am very concerned about the number of sexual assaults committed against both children and adults. I am aware that this is not just a criminal justice matter. All of us must become more involved.

I feel strongly that our community should support name of agency in their efforts to provide assistance to survivors of sexual violence and their families, and in their work to educate the public about this threat to our lives, and to the quality of life in our community.

Research performed by the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault and the University of Texas School of Social Work has shown that 1 in 5 Texas women and 1 in 20 Texas men have been sexually assaulted in their lifetimes. Of these assaults, however, only 1 in every 5 survivors reports their victimization to law enforcement. Texans must speak up and speak out about this violent crime and our community must be prepared to answer the call and offer our support.

Anyone who needs assistance or wants to learn more about sexual assault and the services available in our community can contact name of agency at hotline or online (website).

Sincerely,

I. Am A. Citizen

Press Release

For Immediate Release
(Date)

Contact: (your name)
(xxx) xxx-xxxx (phone)

(Your Agency Name) Marks Start of Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month

The Texas Association Against Sexual Assault (TAASA) is sponsoring the **Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month, April 2004**. The theme of this year's observance is "*Speak Up, Speak Out: Border to Border.*" The focus will be on the potential strength of unified communities working together to fight the sexual violence that plagues our great state.

During this month sexual assault programs across the state will intensify their efforts to promote public awareness of sexual assault issues, including the need for citizen involvement in reducing sexual assault (by confronting rape-supportive attitudes rather than relying entirely on the criminal justice system), and the need to increase community support for agencies providing sexual assault crisis and educational services.

For more information or to schedule a speaker for your group, contact (your agency name). There are over 75 sexual assault programs in Texas. (your agency name) is proud to serve this community (or list neighboring community if you serve more than one) and we operate a 24-hour confidential hotline for rape survivors and others affected by rape, (insert hotline number).

A statewide survey conducted by TAASA and the University of Texas School of Social Work concluded approximately 2 million Texans have been sexually assaulted in their lifetimes. This translates to 1 in 5 Texas women and 1 in 20 Texas men. However, only 1 in 5 rapes is ever reported to law enforcement, and 1 in 10 victims seeks medical attention. We cannot turn our back on the victims of this silent crime.

(Rape Crisis Center) is a TAASA member agency. TAASA is an organization comprised of sexual assault programs and rape crisis centers and others who have joined together to support each other in their work and to provide the State of Texas and its citizens with a source of information on sexual assault and support for its survivors.

###

Sample Public Service Announcements

(15 seconds)

Survivors of sexual assault may feel alone, but they are not on their own. Legal, emotional and financial help is available. For information about services available to survivors of sexual assault and their loved ones, contact your local rape crisis center at _____.

(30 seconds)

When we think of sexual violence, we normally picture women or young girls but this abuse is not restricted to female victims. A significant portion of sexual abuse victims are men and boys. In the state of Texas, 1 in every 20 men have been victimized in their lifetime. If you or someone you love has been victimized, know that services and support are also available to you. Contact your local sexual assault hotline at _____, 24 hours a day.

(30 seconds)

Six out of every 10 adult Texans see rape as a personal worry. Sexual violence is a scary topic, and its little wonder that people would rather avoid thinking about it, however, as we observe Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month, please keep your safety and security at the front of your mind. The number of people affected by sexual abuse is staggering, but we can make a difference in our own community. Contact your local rape crisis center at _____ to learn how you can make a difference.

(30 seconds)

It could be your next door neighbor. It could be a co-worker. It could be the sales clerk at the grocery store. It could be your child's best friend. It could be your child. Of all of these, one will fall victim to sexual violence at least once in their lifetime. One in five Texas women and one in twenty Texas men are sexually assaulted during their lifetime. "Speak up and speak out about sexual assault. Contact your local rape crisis center at _____ and challenge yourself to make a positive change in your community.

(30 seconds)

Sexual assault not only harms the victims, but damages families, communities and our way of life. Sexual assault is one of the root causes of homelessness, welfare dependency, drug and alcohol abuse and incarceration rates in our state. By working together, as a community, we can make a difference and end sexual assault in Texas. For information on how you can help raise awareness in our community, contact (Rape Crisis Center) at _____.

(30 seconds)

Sexual Assault is a violent crime—a crime of control. It is an act that stems from rage, aggression, entitlement, and the determination to take control of another person. Most importantly, sexual assault happens to people you know and is perpetrated by people you

know. Three out of four sexual assaults are committed by a person known to the victim. Speak up and speak out against sexual assault in your community. Call (Rape Crisis Center) at _____.

(30 seconds)

Prevention of sexual assault starts with communication. More than half of all Texans are unaware of the sexual assault crisis centers in their community. There is an urgent need for discussion and action by all members of our communities regarding sexual assault. Action begins with communication. Start by talking and listening to people you know. The more people know, the more they will be able to help others. To learn the facts about sexual assault, contact your local rape crisis center at _____.

(60 seconds)

Have you ever heard, “If you love me you’ll do it.” “I’m going to teach you about love.” These are some of the phrases that are used to pressure and convince children and women into having sex against their will. In most cases the perpetrators are family members, partners, or acquaintances. Instead of receiving support or help the victims are often blamed, and that is why 4 in 5 survivors of sexual abuse or assault never report the crime.

Because of shame or fear of how their family or community might react, many sexual abuse victims suffer in silence and never receive the support they deserve. The time has come for Texans to speak up and speak out about this violent crime. It’s time that sexual assault had a voice of its own—make this voice yours. April is Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. To find out more about this subject and about existing free services call the nearest Rape Crisis Center _____ at _____.

Public Service Announcements for Rural Communities

(60 seconds)

According to the University of Texas School of Social Work, 2 million Texans have been sexually assaulted in their lifetimes. Most of the rapists are not strangers who jump from behind bushes. They are friends, neighbors, co-workers and classmates of the victims. Most of these assaults do NOT occur in dark alleyways in big cities. They happen in the victim’s own home or in the home of the assailant, in our own community and in communities just like ours.

Familiar surroundings do not provide security. Rape is NOT a big city problem. It is a social problem and it affects us all. April is Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. For more information about how to stop this problem in our community contact your local Rape Crisis Center _____, at _____ . (You can remain anonymous.)

(60 seconds)

Derek was known as a troublemaker at school. He had a hard time concentrating and was quick to become angry and fight with the other children. He never considered telling his teacher or anyone else about the intimidation and sexual abuse he endured at home.

Who would believe him? His stepfather was well respected in the community. And Derek had heard how the adults in his community responded to stories of sexual abuse by saying, "Thank Heaven, those kind of things don't go on around here." Derek kept his secret, survived this nightmare in silence, and accepted the labels that others wrongfully gave him.

DON'T TURN YOUR HEAD THE OTHER WAY. Sexual abuse happens *everywhere*. Help protect our children. April is Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. Learn more about how to identify symptoms of child sexual abuse and what you can do to help stop this abuse in our community. For more information contact our local Rape Crisis Center _____ at _____. (You can remain anonymous.)

(60 seconds)

If your partner forces or intimidates you into having sex against your will it is NOT okay. Even if you have had sex with the person before, and even if you are married, no one has the right to force or coerce you into doing something you do not want to do.

Sexual contact that occurs without the other person's permission is called **SEXUAL ASSAULT**. And it is against Texas law. April is Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. If you or someone you know has experienced forced sexual activity and needs assistance, please contact the nearest rape crisis center _____ at _____. (You can remain anonymous.)

(60 seconds)

Jason and his friends had been celebrating their upcoming graduation into the early hours of the morning. Cindy who had been flirting with Jason throughout the night was nearly passed out in the back bedroom. Jason's friends kept encouraging him to go to her. "It's obvious she wants you!" they urged. Feeling justified because of her flirtations and her drunkenness Jason went to the back room and had sex with Cindy. He is now awaiting trial in his cell at the county jail.

Do not make the same mistake that Jason made. According to Texas law, if someone is drunk or unconscious they cannot give consent. Sex without legal consent is **RAPE** and it is a **FELONY**. April is Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month. Learn more about these issues by contacting the nearest rape crisis center _____ at _____. (You can remain anonymous.)

Date rape is rape. Know the facts. Know the law.

Muestra de los Anuncios Públicos del Servicio

(15 segundos)

Los sobrevivientes del asalto sexual pueden sentirse solo, pero ellos no son solos. Legal, emocional y ayuda financiera esta disponible. Para la información acerca de servicios disponibles a sobrevivientes del asalto sexual y sus adorados, contacta su centro local de la crisis de la violación en _____.

(30 segundos)

Cuándo nosotros pensamos en la violencia sexual, nosotros nos imaginamos normalmente mujeres o a chicas jóvenes pero este abuso no son restringidos a víctimas femeninas. Una porción significativa de víctimas sexuales de abuso son hombres y chicos. En el estado de Tejas, 1 en cada 20 hombres ha sido hecho víctima en su vida. Si usted o alguien que usted adora ha sido hecho víctima, sabe que ayuda tambien esta disponible a usted. Contacte su línea directa del asalto sexual en _____, las 24 horas del día.

(30 segundos)

Seis fuera de cada 10 tejanos adultos ven la violación como una preocupación personal. La violencia sexual es un tema espantoso, y es una maravilla pequeña que personas evitan el pensamiento acerca de lo, sin embargo, como observamos el Mes del Conocimiento del Asalto Sexual y Prevención, mantienen por favor su seguridad en la frente de su mente. El número de personas afectadas por el abuso sexual demasiado, pero podemos hacer una diferencia en nuestra propia comunidad. Contacte su centro local de la crisis de la violación en _____ para aprender cómo usted puede hacer una diferencia.

(30 segundos)

Podría ser su vecino. Podría ser un colega. Podría ser la persona trabajando en una tienda. Podría ser el mejor amigo de su niño. Podría ser su niño. De todo éstos, uno ira ser víctima a la violencia sexual por lo menos una vez en su vida. Una en cinco mujeres de Tejas y en uno en veinte hombres de Tejas se asalta sexualmente durante su vida. Habla más alto y habla fuerte acerca del asalto sexual. Contacte su centro local de la crisis de la violación en _____ y se desafía a hacer un cambio positivo en su comunidad.

(30 segundos)

El asalto sexual no sólo daña a las víctimas, pero las familias, las comunidades y nuestro estilo de vida. El asalto sexual es uno de las causas de personas sin casas, la dependencia del bienestar, el abuso de la droga y el alcohol y tasas de encarcelación en nuestro estado. Trabajando juntos, como una comunidad, nosotros podemos hacer una diferencia y terminar el asalto sexual en Tejas. Para la información en cómo usted puede ayudar aumentar el conocimiento en nuestra comunidad, pongase el contacto con (El Centro de la Crisis de la Violación) en _____.

(30 segundos)

El Asalto sexual es un crimen violento-- un crimen del control. Es un acto que proviene de la corraje, la agresión, el derecho, y la determinación de tomar el control de otra persona. La mayoría de el asalto sexual sucede a personas que usted conoce y es perpetrado por personas que usted sabe. Tres fuera de cuatro asaltos sexuales son cometidos por una persona conocida a la víctima. Hable más alto y hable francamente contra el asalto sexual en su comunidad. Llame (El Centro de la Crisis de la Violación) en _____.

(30 segundos)

La prevención del asalto sexual empieza con comunicación. Más que la mitad de todos tejanos son ignorante de los centros sexuales de la crisis del asalto en su comunidad. Hay una necesidad urgente para la discusión y la acción por todos miembros de nuestras comunidades con respecto al asalto sexual. La acción empieza con comunicación. Empiece hablando con personas y escucha a personas que usted sabe. Lo más que personas saben, el más ellos serán capaces de ayudar los otros. Para aprender los hechos acerca del asalto sexual, contactan su centro local de la crisis de la violación en _____.

(60 segundos)

Usted a oyida, “Si usted me quiere, usted lo hará.” “yo lo enseñaré acerca de amor.” Estos son algunos de las frases que se utilizan para presionar y convencer niños y a mujeres a tener el sexo contra su hecho. En la mayoría de los casos los perpetradores son miembros de familia, los socios, o los conocidos. En vez de recibir apoyo o ayuda, las víctimas a menudo son culpadas, y por eso 4 en 5 sobrevivientes del abuso o el asalto sexual nunca informan el crimen.

A causa de la vergüenza o el temor de cómo su familia o comunidad quizás reaccionen, muchas víctimas sexuales del abuso sufren en el silencio y nunca reciben el apoyo que ellos merecen. El tiempo ha venido para tejanos a hablar más alto y para hablar francamente acerca de este crimen violento. Es tiempo que el asalto sexual tenga una voz de su propia, hacer esta voz la suya. Abril es el mes del Conocimiento del Asalto Sexual y de Prevención. Para aprender más acerca de este sujeto y acerca de servicios libres existentes llame al Centro más cercana de la Crisis de la Violación _____ en _____.

Los Anuncios Públicos del Servicio para Comunidades Rurales

(60 segundos)

Según la Universidad de la Escuela de Tejas del Trabajo Social, 2 millones de tejanos se han asaltado sexualmente en sus vidas. La mayor parte de los violadores no son extranjeros que saltan por detrás arbustos. Ellos son amigos, los vecinos, los colegas y los compañeros de clase de las víctimas.

La mayor parte de estos asaltos no ocurren en callejones oscuros en ciudades grandes. Ellos suceden en el propio hogar de la víctima o en el hogar del agresor, en nuestra propia comunidad y en comunidades así como nuestro.

Los areas familiares no proporcionan la seguridad. La violación NO es un problema grande de la ciudad. Es un problema social y nos afecta a todos. Abril es el Mes del Conocimiento del Asalto Sexual y de Prevención. Para más información acerca de cómo parar este problema en nuestra comunidad contacta su Crisis local de la Violación _____, en _____. (Usted puede quedarse anónimo.)

(60 segundos)

Juan se supo como un alborotador en el colegio. El tiene problemas con concentracion y era rápido para enojarse y pelear con los otros niños. El nunca consideró diciendo su maestro o nadie más acerca de la intimidación y el abuso sexual que él aguantó en casa.

¿Quién lo creería? Su padrastro fue respetado bien en la comunidad. Y Juan había oído cómo los adultos en su comunidad respondían a cuentos del abuso sexual diciendo, “menos mal que esos tipo de cosas no pasa por aquí.” Juan mantuvo su secreto, sobrevivió esta pesadilla en el silencio, y aceptó las etiquetas que otros injustamente le dieron.

NO TOME SU CABEZA AL OTRA LADO. El abuso sexual sucede por todas partes. Ayude a proteger a nuestros niños. Abril es el Mes del Conocimiento del Asalto Sexual y de Prevención. Aprenda más acerca de cómo identificar los síntomas de niño el abuso

sexual y de lo que usted puede hacer para ayudar la parada de este abuso en nuestra comunidad. Para más información contacta nuestra Crisis local de la Violación _____ en _____. (Usted puede quedarse anónimo.)

(60 segundos)

Si tu pareja te obliga o te presiona a tener relacion sexual en contra de tu voluntad, eso NO ESTA BIEN. Incluso si usted haya tenido el sexo con la persona antes, e incluso si usted es casado, nadie tiene el derecho de forzar u obligarlo a hacer algo usted no quiere hacer.

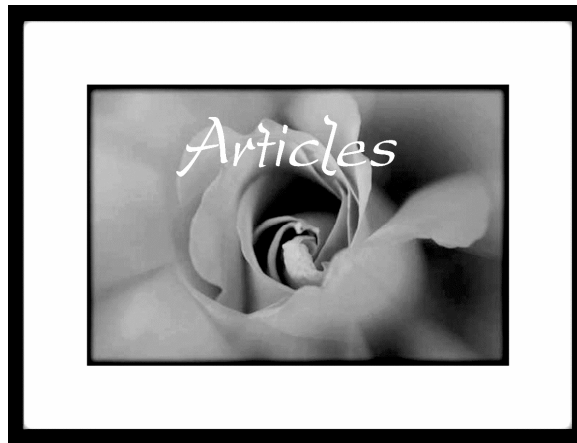
El contacto sexual que ocurre sin el permiso de la otra persona se llama el ASALTO SEXUAL. Y está contra la ley de Tejas. Abril el el mes del Conocimiento del Asalto Sexual y de Prevención. Si usted o alguien usted sabe ha sido victima actividad de sexual forzado y necesitas asistencia, contacta por favor el centro de la crisis de la violación _____ en _____. (Usted puede quedarse anónimo.)

(60 segundos)

Ramon y sus amigos habían estado celebrando su graduación próxima en las horas tempranas de la mañana. Teresa que había estado coqueteando con Ramon a través de la noche casi se desmayó en el dormitorio de espalda. Los amigos de Ramon mantuvieron alentarle ir a ella. “Es obvio que ella te quiere!” ellos insistieron. El sentimiento justificado por su coquetea y por el exceso de licor, Ramon fue al cuarto y tuvo el sexo con Teresa. El ahora aguarda el ensayo en su célula en la cárcel de condado.

No haga el mismo error que Ramon hizo. Según la ley de Tejas, si alguien es bebido o inconsciente ellos no pueden dar el consentimiento. El sexo sin el consentimiento legal es la VIOLACION y es un CRIMEN GRAVE. Abril es el mes del Conocimiento del Asalto Sexual y Prevención. Aprenda más acerca de estos asuntos contactando el centro mas cerca de la crisis de la violación _____ en _____. (Usted puede quedarse anónimo.)

La violación es la violación. Sepa los hechos. Sepa la ley.



The following articles may be used for your agencies newsletter, for submission to local newspapers and/or published on their own for informational purposes.

Play Therapy

By Lucy Smith

Midland Rape Crisis Center

Expressive play therapy can be seen as an umbrella term, which covers other modalities such as sand tray and art. A general overview of non-directive therapy will be given as the goals and outcomes of each modality are the same. The expressive therapies are used successfully with groups and families as well as with individuals.

It is felt that licensed therapists can use these modalities of play therapy with clients and their families. It is not felt that every therapist must be specifically certified or licensed in each particular area to be ethically correct. There are many excellent books and workshops every year on all aspects of play therapy and therapists are encouraged to attend the ones of interest to them. It is always advised to use an accepted and credible method of therapy with some training in order to be ethically safe.

The expressive therapies provide a means to access the subconscious mind, which is not as guarded as the conscious mind. Play is the natural non-verbal form of expression of the child. Play therapy provides an opportunity for a child to “play out” his feelings and problems just as adults “talk out” their problems. Play enables the child to communicate more openly and with greater ease than verbal therapy. The child thinks, “I can’t tell you what is wrong, but I can SHOW you.” The world of adults is one of verbal communication and linear thinking, while the world of the child is made up of fantasy, symbolism, and concrete thinking. The creative process does not require verbalized reflection and insight, but allows the child the opportunity to communicate via metaphor. The child plays what he knows; he can play and act out what is seen and heard. The expressive therapies allow access to the subconscious mind, which is less guarded than the conscious mind.

Therapy in any form should provide the child a safe, non-threatening environment and the opportunity to reveal and deal with his emotional world which includes his fears, trauma, thoughts, and feelings, through self-expression. In play therapy, the child is the most important component. He is in control of his world and of himself and, as such, he can control outcomes, change endings and experiment with options. The rules are minimal and the child is accepted completely, as he is, and treated with dignity and respect. The child is able to say anything he wants, play with the toys, art supplies and dance to the music in any way he desires. In the play therapy environment, the child finds criticism, judgment, disapproval, unrealistic expectations, and intrusions removed. In this environment, the child finds he has the ability and permission to be himself without any pressure to change.

In therapy, the child learns respect for himself, to identify his feelings and to understand that these feelings are acceptable, to assume responsibility and acceptance for himself, and to be resourceful and creative in dealing with problems. According to Landreth, a child is a person and is capable of experiencing deep emotional pain and joy, but has the capacity to overcome obstacles and adverse circumstances if given the opportunity. The child will take the therapeutic experience where HE needs to be. Let the child lead! The child is capable of positive self-direction and he has the innate ability to heal.

Art, in its various components, is an instant graphic representation of an expression of emotion. Art, like play, provides a means of communication despite barriers of language, culture, repressed experiences and resistance. In the process of art, it is in the process that the work is done and healing completed; not in the finished product. The child is able to work through his emotions and problem solve during the process. The art process also produces a tangible product that can be brought back later for further discussion and interpretation.

Sand tray provides another way for the child to portray his world and manipulate it and it lends itself well to metaphor. The sand tray allows the child to create in a limited space by using miniature figures to create his world in the sand. The dimensions of the tray are such that the child can take in the whole view at one time. The sand tray creation, like the art creation provides a tangible product that can be recorded, photographed and preserved. According to Lowenfeld, the goal of sand tray is to have the created world confront its maker, rather than having the therapist confront the child, who is the maker of the world.

The most important tenant to remember in using the expressive therapies is DO NOT INTERPRET. The child must tell the therapist what his play, art, and sand tray mean to him. Over time, the metaphors of each child will become clear to the therapist, but remember that it is the process, through which the child goes that provides the healing, not necessarily, the identity of the metaphor. The child has the ability to heal himself if a safe, non-threatening environment with a trusting and accepting person is provided.

(This is an article about SANEs appropriate for communities with SANE programs)

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners: Responding to Survivors of Sexual Assault

Sexual Assault Awareness Month is a chance to review and reflect on our community's response to sexual assault and our support of survivors. During the month of April, **(name of program)** will offer activities to provide Texans with education and information about sexual assault. As part a of these awareness efforts, we would like to make special mention of the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANEs) serving our area.

A Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner is a registered nurse who has undergone extensive training to provide care to sexual assault survivors. SANEs are certified in Texas through the Office of the Attorney General after completing a sixty-four (64) hour course and acquiring ninety-six (96) hours of clinical experience.

Historically, victims of sexual assault have been asked to wait in the public areas of emergency rooms for long periods of time until medical personnel can begin an exam. Through 24-hour availability, SANE programs not only shorten this time, but offer better evidence collection, return law enforcement more quickly to the community, and provide support to the victim and their loved ones. SANEs perform a valuable service by offering comprehensive, compassionate care to sexual assault survivors while meticulously collecting evidence which is then transferred to the law enforcement agency investigating the crime. SANEs may also be called upon to be expert witnesses in court.

Four key disciplines collaborated to provide support and expertise in the creation of our SANE program – prosecution, law enforcement, medical and the sexual assault program. Our local District/County Attorney (**name of DA or CA**); Sheriff (**name**); Chief of Police (**name**); the (**name of medical facility**); and the (**name of sexual assault program**) agree that the collection of evidence is a priority and essential in the successful adjudication of sex offenders. Each of these individuals, and their respective agencies, support the SANE program at (**name medical facility or facilities**). They believe that all victims of sexual assault should be able to report the crime, receive a medical/forensic exam and be treated with sensitivity throughout the medical/legal process.

A special thank you to all involved in creating and supporting our SANE team! We want to recognize the following certified SANEs for their tireless and committed work helping survivors of sexual assault in our community. (**List SANE team members, remember to recognize the coordinator**)

If you would like to learn more about our community's Sexual Assault Awareness Month activities contact: (**sexual assault program contact info**). For more information about the (**name of SANE program**) contact: (**SANE coordinator's name and number**).

(This is an article about SANEs appropriate for communities without SANE programs)

Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners: Responding to Victims of Sexual Assault

During the month of April, *(name of program)* will offer activities to provide Texans with education and information about sexual assault. As we look at our community's response to sexual assault and our support of survivors, we want to highlight Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) and how these specifically trained nurses can serve our area.

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In order for communities to have a SANE program, four key disciplines must come together – prosecution, law enforcement, medical and the sexual assault center. This collaboration is essential to the success of a SANE program and the adjudication of sex offenders. The Office of the Attorney General's Sexual Assault Prevention and Crisis Services Program provides technical support and training to communities wishing to initiate this process.

SANE programs provide victims of sexual assault with specially trained nurses, a faster, community-supported approach to sexual assault exams, and better evidence collection for the prosecution of sex offenders. SANE programs throughout Texas are a valuable tool for addressing the problem of sexual assault.

For more information about our community's Sexual Assault Awareness Month activities contact: **(sexual assault program contact info)**. For more information about services available to assist communities wishing to develop a SANE program contact Grace L. Davis, LMSW-ACP, Community Development Specialist, Crime Victim Services Division, OAG, at 512-936-1598 or grace.davis@oag.state.tx.us.

Sex Trafficking: A Modern Form of Slavery

By Greta Hillin

Texas Association Against Sexual Assault

There is an epidemic sweeping the United States. It isn't AIDS or the latest flu virus, and it can't be contained or controlled with a vaccine. It is sex trafficking, and border states are being hit especially hard.

Sex trafficking is defined as all acts which involve the recruitment and/or transport of a person within and across national borders to gratify the sexual desires of others. It is accomplished by means of direct or indirect violence or threat of violence, abuse of authority or dominant position, debt-bondage, deception, or other forms of coercion.

It is estimated that between 700,000 and 4 million people each year are victims of trafficking. It has become one of the more profitable endeavors for criminal syndicates, often bringing in more revenue than the global narcotics trade. After all, a gun or a bag of cocaine can be sold only once, but a human being can be enslaved for years and sold many times.

People find themselves victims of the sex trafficking industry in a number of ways. Occasionally, they are kidnapped at random off the streets. In poverty stricken areas, children are sometimes sold into bondage to help relieve the financial burden on the remaining family members. Sometimes, women are lured by the promise of legitimate employment, only to find that they are being held against their will and forced into prostitution by their captors. There are a number of factors that make certain populations vulnerable to trafficking; economic or political situations, demand for workers, and lack of education may initially place them in peril. Immigration laws, language limitations and lack of knowledge about the country are factors that continue to keep them enslaved, often for years or until they are no longer profitable for their captors.

In 2000, a federal law was enacted to facilitate prosecution of trafficking crimes and provide protection to victims. It is the Victims of Trafficking and Violence Protection Act of 2000. The act has three main purposes: prosecution of traffickers, protection for trafficking victims and prevention of future trafficking. The act has resulted in the establishment of new crimes, enhanced penalties for existing crimes, establishing two new visas, and has addressed such issues as forced labor, forced servitude, sex trafficking of children and sex trafficking by force, fraud or coercion.

Victims who have been brought into the U.S. for the purposes of trafficking may be granted immigration relief, access to refugee benefits, including work permits, adequate shelter, care, protection in federal custody, legal assistance, translation services and mandatory restitution.

Victims of trafficking may be eligible for one of two types of relief; short term and long term. Continued Presence is issued by the federal government as a form of short term relief. It is granted for one year and is renewable. Continued Presence allows persons who are victims and potential witnesses of a “severe form of trafficking” to remain in the U.S. in order to assist in the prosecution of traffickers. There is no limit to the number of Continued Presences that can be issued in a year.

“Severe forms of trafficking” are those in which a commercial sex act is induced by force, fraud or coercion, or that the person induced is under the age of 18. It can also be the recruitment, harboring, transportation, provision, or obtaining of a person for labor or services through the use of force, fraud, or coercion for the purpose of involuntary servitude, peonage, debt bondage or slavery.

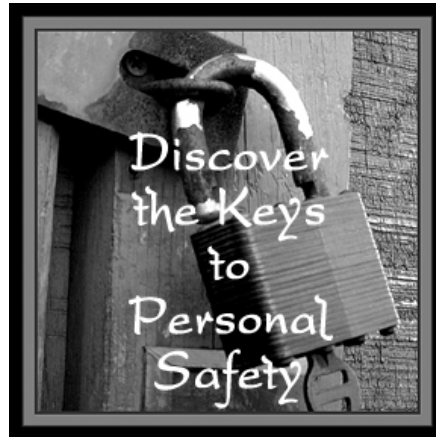
T visas and U visas offer more long term relief. They can last up to three years, but are not renewable. There is a limit to the number of these types of visa that can be issued in a year. T visas are limited to 5,000 and U visas are limited to 10,000 annually.

Qualification requirements vary for the two visas. To meet the requirements for a T visa, a person must have been a victim of a severe form of trafficking, be present in the U.S., American Samoa, or Northern Mariana Islands because of trafficking, have complied with reasonable requests for assistance in investigation or prosecution of acts of trafficking, (children under 15 do not need to meet this criterion), and would suffer extreme hardship involving unusual and severe harm upon removal from the country.

The U visa provides immigration relief to victims of certain criminal activities who suffered substantial physical or mental abuse as a result and who have been or are likely to be helpful to law enforcement.

Trafficking victims are also eligible for TVPA benefits such as refugee cash, medical assistance, temporary assistance for needy families (TANF), Medicaid, supplemental security income (SSI), and food stamps. To obtain these benefits, victims must have been a victim of a severe form of trafficking, must be willing to assist in the investigation and prosecution of a trafficking case, and have a T visa determination letter or have been granted Continued Presence. Victimization must be certified by an HHS representative.

If you believe you are a victim of trafficking, or if you know someone you suspect has been trafficked illegally and is being held against his/her will, you can contact the Department of Justice Report Line at 1-888-428-7581 or the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE.



Here is a list of suggestions to help you protect yourself.

Think through how you usually react to crisis situations. Do you flee, freeze, or fight? Think of a few past examples to see if there is a pattern. You can change how you react by practicing a different response if needed.

Talk to others about ways to handle confrontations and rehearse alternatives.

There is no right or wrong way to react. Every situation is different. The best response depends on a combination of factors, such as location, the assailant, presence of weapons, your personal responses, etc

Walking

- Plan and use the safest and most direct route.
- Choose well-lighted streets at night.
- Stay alert to your surroundings; look confident and purposeful.
- Become familiar with businesses that are open late.
- If you feel uneasy, go directly to a place where there are other people.

If you are being followed by someone in a car: Turn around and walk quickly in the opposite direction Try to obtain the license plate number and a description of the car and call the police.

If you are being followed by someone on foot: Turn around to let the person know you see them. immediately cross the street and walk or run toward a place where there is likely to be other people. Call the police or get someone else to call for you.

In cases involving verbal harassment: Ignore it and walk away. If you are alone at a bus stop, proceed to the next stop if there are other people there.

Your car

- Drive with car doors locked and windows closed. If possible, carry a cell phone.
- Keep your wallet, purse and valuables out of view while driving. Do not leave them

next to you on the seat.

- If you see another motorist in trouble, do not stop. Call the police for assistance.
- Park in well-lighted areas. Look around before you get out of your car.
- Put valuables and packages in the trunk or out of sight before parking.
- Always lock the doors, no matter how soon you plan to return.
- When returning to your car, have your key in hand. look inside before unlocking and entering the car.
- If someone is following you, go to the nearest police station and honk your horn, or go to a gas station or business. Do not go home or pull over or get out.

AT Home

- If there is a stranger at the door, never indicate that you are home alone.
- Do not open the door to anyone you don't know without verifying their identity.
- If someone wants to use your telephone, offer to make the call yourself while the person waits outside.
- Never let a stranger through an apartment security entrance.
- Do not give information to "wrong number" callers. Ask, "What number are you calling?"
- Never tell an unknown caller that you are at home alone.
- Verify the intent and identity of any person calling for information about you by calling the person's agency or workplace.
- Hang up immediately if you receive threatening or harassing phone calls. Do not say anything. If the calls continue, keep a record of the date, time and content of each call. Notify the police and phone company.

Face-To-face Confrontations

When faced with danger, trust yourself. Your single most effective weapon is your judgment. Rely on it to choose what you think is the best response at the time, whether it is to:

- * run
- * stall
- * not resist
- * negotiate
- * verbally assert yourself
- * scream to attract attention
- * distract or divert attention
- * physically resist- fight off the assailant

Always evaluate your resources and options. Continue to assess the situation while it is occurring. If the first strategy chosen is not working, try something else.

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Crime Prevention
Minneapolis Police Department

RESOURCES

STATE **Non-Profit**

Texas Association Against Sexual Assault	www.taasa.org	(512) 474-7190
Texas Council on Family Violence	www.tcfv.org	(512) 794-1133
Women's Advocacy Project	www.women-law.org	(800) 777-3247
People Against Violent Crime	www.main.org/pavc.home.htm	(512) 453-5771
Children's Advocacy Centers of Texas	www.cactx.org/index.shtml	(800) 255-2574
Texas CASA	www.texascasa.org	(977) TX4 CASA
Arte Sana	www.arte-sana.com	

Government

Texas Office of the Attorney General	www.oag.state.tx.us	(512) 463-2100
-Crime Victims Compensation		(800) 983-9933
Texas Office of the Governor	www.governor.state.tx.us	(512) 437-3450
-Criminal Justice Division		
Texas Department of Criminal Justice	www.tdcj.state.tx.us	(800) 848-4284
-Victim Services Division		
Texas Department of Health	www.tdh.state.tx.us	(512) 834-4530
-Council for Sex Offender Treatment		
Texas Dept. of Protective and Regulatory Services	www.tdprs.state.tx.us	(512) 438-4800

NATIONAL Non-Profit

National Sexual Violence Resource Center	www.nsvrc.org	(877) 739-3895
National Violence Against Women Prevention Research Center	www.nvaw.org	(843) 792-2945
National Center on Sexual and Domestic Violence	www.ncsdv.org	(512) 407-9020
Rural Women Zone	www.ruralwomyn.net/domvio.html	Online only
	www.cavnet2.org	Online only

CAVNET (Communities Against Violence Network)

National Center of Elder Abuse	www.elderabusecenter.org	(202) 898-2586
NOVA (National Organization for Victim Assistance)	www.try-nova.org	(800) 879-6682
NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund	www.now.org	(202) 628-8669
National Center for Victims of Crime	www.ncvc.org	(202) 467-8700

Government

Violence Against Women Online Resources	www.vaw.umn.edu	Online only
Violence Against Women Office Website	www.ojp.usdoj.gov/vawo	(202) 307-6026
Office for Victims of Crime	www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc	(800) 627-6872
VAWnet Online Resource Library	www.vawnet.org	
National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse & Neglect	www.nccanch.acf.hhs.gov	(800) 394-3366
National Criminal Justice Reference Service	www.ncjrs.org	(800) 851-3420
Bureau of Justice Statistics	www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs	(202) 307-0765
Federal Bureau of Investigation	www.fbi.gov/ucr/ucr.htm	(304) 625-4995

HOTLINES

Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network	(800) 656-HOPE
National Child Abuse Hotline	(800) 4-ACHILD
National Domestic Violence Hotline	(800) 799-7223
National Center for Missing & Exploited Children	(800) 843-5678
National Center for Victims of Crime Hotline	(800) FYI-CALL M-F 7:30am-7:30pm only
Information and Referral for Victims of Crime and Disaster	(800) TRY-NOVA
Bureau of Indian Affairs Indian Country Child Abuse	(800) 633-5155
Texas Child & Elder Abuse Hotline	(800) 252-5400

Sexual Assault Programs in Texas

(Agencies in italics are satellite or outreach offices)

City	Agency	Administrative Number	Hotline Number
Abilene	Crime Victim Crisis Center	325/677-7895	325/677-7895
<i>Alice</i>	<i>Women's Shelter of South Texas</i>	361/664-8598	800-580-4878
Alpine	Family Crisis Center of the Big Bend, Inc.	432/837-7254	800/834-0654
<i>Alvin</i>	<i>Women's Center of Brazoria County, Inc</i>	281/585-0904	
Amarillo	Family Support Services	806/372-3202	800/749-9026 or 806/374-5433
Angleton	Women's Center of Brazoria County, Inc	979/849-9553	800/243-5788
<i>Arlington</i>	<i>The Women's Center of Tarrant County</i>	817/548-1663	817/927-2737
<i>Athens</i>	<i>East Texas Crisis Center-Henderson County</i>	903/657-2137	800/333-0358
Austin	SafePlace: Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Survival Center	512/267-SAFE (7233)	512/267-SAFE
Bastrop	Family Crisis Center	512/321-7760	888/311-7755
Bay City	Matagorda County Women's Center, Inc.	979/245-9109	800/451-9235
Baytown	New Horizon Family Center (formerly Bay Area Women's Center)	281/424-3300	800/824-4807
Beaumont	Rape & Suicide Crisis of SE Texas	409/832-6530	800/7We-Care or 409/835-3355
<i>Beeville</i>	<i>Women's Shelter of South Texas</i>	361/362-1187	800-580-4878
Big Lake	Friends For Hope, Inc.	325/884-2281	325/884-9804
Big Spring	Victim Services of Big Spring	432/263-3312	432/263-3312
Bonham	Fannin County Family Crisis Center	903/583-7694	903/583-7000
Borger	Hutchinson County Crisis Center	806/274-9677	806/273-2313
<i>Breckenridge</i>	<i>Crime Victim Assistance Center</i>	254/559-4000	888/686-3222
Brownsville	Friendship of Women, Inc.	956/544-7412	956/544-7412
<i>Brownsville</i>	<i>Family Crisis Center</i>	956/544-7273	956/544-7273
Bryan	Brazos Co. Rape Crisis Center, Inc.	979/731-1000	979/731-1000
<i>Canton</i>	<i>East Texas Crisis Center-Van Zandt County</i>	903/567-6426	800/333-0358
Carrizo Springs	Wintergarden Women's Shelter, Inc.	830/876-9656	800/363-9441
<i>Carthage</i>	<i>The Crisis Center of Carthage</i>	903/693-6372	800/333-9148
Cleburne	Johnson County Family Crisis Center	817/558-7171	800/848-3206
Corpus Christi	Women's Shelter of South Texas	361/884-2900	361/881-8888 or 800/580-4878
<i>Cotulla</i>	<i>Wintergarden Women's Shelter, Inc.</i>	830/879-6776	830/879-6776
<i>Crystal City</i>	<i>Wintergarden Women's Shelter, Inc.</i>	830/374-2991	830/374-2991
Dallas	Incest Recovery Program, The Family Place	214/443-7701	214/941-1991
Dallas	VIP Services (Victim Intervention Program)	214/590-2926	214/590-0430
Dallas	Victims Outreach	214/358-5173	214/358-5173
Del Rio	Amistad Family Violence & Rape Crisis Center	830/775-9612	888/774-2744
Denton	Denton County Friends of the Family	940/387-5131	800/572-4031
Dumas	Safe Place, Inc.	806/935-7585	806/935-2828
<i>Eagle Pass</i>	<i>Wintergarden Women's Shelter, Inc.</i>	830/757-5188	830/757-5188
Eastland	Crime Victim Assistance Center	254/629-3223	888/686-3222
El Paso	STARS:Sexual Trauma & Assault Response Services	915/533-7700	915/779-1800

Fort Worth	The Women's Center of Tarrant County	817/927-4039	817/927-2737
Freeport	Women's Center of Brazoria County, Inc	979/233-7174	
Gainesville	Cooke County Friends of the Family	940/665-2873	877/846-4751 or 940/665-2873
Galveston	Women's Resource and Crisis Center of Galveston Co., Inc	409/763-1441	888/919-SAFE or 409/765-SAFE
Gilmer	Women's Center of East Texas, Inc.	903/843-9288	800/441-5555
Grand Prairie	Brighter Tomorrows	972/263-0506	972/262-8383 or 866/925-7233
Greenville	Crisis Center of Northeast Texas	903/454-9998	903/454-9999
Harlingen	Family Crisis Center	956/423-9304	956/423-9304
Hempstead	Focusing Families	979/826-3290	979/826-0000 or 888/BE SAFE-9
Henderson	The Crisis Center of Henderson	903/657-7363	800/333-9148
Hereford	Women & Children's Crisis Center	806/364-4435	888/235-2990
Hondo	Southwest Family Life Center	830/426-5972	830/426-5131
Houston	Montrose Counseling Center, Inc.	713/529-0037	713/529-3211
Houston	Houston Area Women's Center	713/528-6798	800-256-0661 or 713/528-7273
Humble	Familytime Foundation, Inc.	281/446-2615	281/446-2615
Huntsville	Sexual Assault & Abuse Free Environment (SAAFE HOUSE)	936/291-3529	936/291-3369
Jacksonville	Crisis Center of Anderson & Cherokee Counties	903/586-9118	800/232-8519
Katy	Katy Christian Ministries		281 693-7273
Kerrville	Hill Country Crisis Council, Inc	830/257-7088	830/257-2400
Kilgore	The Crisis Center of Kilgore	903/984-3019	800/333-9148
Killeen	Families in Crisis, Inc.	254/634-1184	888/799-SAFE (7233)
Kingsville	Women's Shelter of South Texas	361/516-0330	800-580-4878 or 361/516-0330
Kountze	Hardin County Crime Victims' Assistance Center	409/246-4300	409/246-4300
Laredo	Serving Children and Adolescents in Need, Inc. (SCAN)	956/724-3177	800/355-7226
Lewisville	Denton County Friends of the Family	972/221-0650	800/572-4031 or 940/382-7273
Livingston	Saafe House	936/327-6427	936/327-2513
Longview	Women's Center of East Texas, Inc.	903/295-7846	903/295-7526 or 800/441-5555
Lubbock	Lubbock Rape Crisis Center	806/763-3232	806/763-RAPE (7273)
Lufkin	Women's Shelter of East Texas	936/639-1681	800/828-7233
Marble Falls	Highland Lakes Family Crisis Center	830/693-3656	800/66-HELP4 or 830/693-5600
Marshall	The Crisis Center of Marshall	903/927-1712	800/333-9148
Marshall	Women's Center of East Texas, Inc.	903/934-9661	800/441-5555
McAllen	Women Together/Mujeres Unidas	956/630-4878	800/580-4879
Midland	Midland Rape Crisis	432/682-7273	432/682-7273
Midlothian	Freedom Counseling Associates, Inc	972/723-0044	972-305-7462
Mineola	East Texas Crisis Center/Wood-Rains Counties	903/569-1678	800/333-0358
Mineral Wells	Hope, Inc.	940/325-1308	800/585/1306
Mount Pleasant	Shelter Agencies for Families in East Texas, Inc. (Safe-T)	903/572-0973	903/575-9999 or 888/801-HELP
Nacogdoches	Women's Shelter of East Texas	936/569-1018	800/828-7233

New Braunfels	Comal County Women's Center	830/620-7520	800/434-8013
Odessa	Center for Crisis Advocacy	432/333-2527	800/658-6779
<i>Palestine</i>	<i>Crisis Center of Anderson & Cherokee Counties</i>	<i>903/723-5858</i>	<i>800/232-8519</i>
Pampa	Tralee Crisis Center	806/669-1131	800/658-2796 or 806/669-1788
Paris	Family Haven Crisis & Resource Center	903/784-6901	800/44-HAVEN or 903/784-6842
Pasadena	The Bridge Over Troubled Waters	713/472-0753	713/473-2801
<i>Pearland</i>	<i>Women's Center of Brazoria County, Inc</i>	<i>281/485-0934</i>	
Perryton	Panhandle Crisis Center	806/435-5008	800/753-5308
Plainview	Hale County Crisis Center	806/293-9772	806/293-7273
Plano	The Turning Point (Rape Crisis Center of Collin County)	972/985-0951	800/886-7273
Pleasanton	Atascosa Family Crisis Center	830/281-2001	830/569-2001
Port Lavaca	The Harbor Children's Alliance & Victim Center	361/552-1982	361/552-4357
<i>Presidio</i>	<i>Family Crisis Center of the Big Bend, Inc.</i>	<i>432/229-4297</i>	<i>800/834-0654 or 432/837-2242</i>
Richmond	Fort Bend County Women's Center	281/342-0251	281/342-4357
Round Rock	Williamson Co. Crisis Center	512/255-1212	800/460-7233
San Angelo	Assault Victim Services of Concho Valley	325/944-8728	325/658-8888 or 800/656-4673
San Antonio	The Rape Crisis Center	210/521-7273	210/349-7273
San Marcos	Hays-Caldwell Women's Center	512/396-3404	512/396-4357
Seguin	Guadalupe Valley Family Violence Shelter	830/372-2780	800/834-2033
Sherman	Crisis Center	903/893-3909	903/893-5615
<i>Sinton</i>	<i>Women's Shelter of South Texas</i>	<i>361/364-0661</i>	<i>800-580-4878</i>
Snyder	Gateway Family Services	325/573-4351	800/578-8054
<i>Spearman</i>	<i>Panhandle Crisis Center Outreach Office</i>	<i>806/659-3391</i>	<i>806/659-3391</i>
Stephenville	Cross Timbers Family Services	254/965-5516	254/965-HELP (4357)
<i>Sweetwater</i>	<i>Sweetwater Outreach Office</i>	<i>325/235-1552</i>	<i>800/578-8054</i>
Texarkana	Domestic Violence Prevention, Inc.	903/794-4000	800/876-4808 or 903/793-4357
The Woodlands	Montgomery County Women's Center	281/292-4155	936/441-7273
Tyler	East Texas Crisis Center	903/509-2526	800/333-0358 or 903/595-5591
Victoria	Hope of South Texas	361/573-5868	800/365-7345
Waco	Advocacy Center for Crime Victims & Children	254/752-9330	888/867-7233 or 254/752-7233
Weatherford	Freedom House	817/596-7543	817/596-8922
Webster	Bay Area Turning Point	281/338-7600	281/286-2525
<i>Weslaco</i>	<i>Women Together</i>	<i>956/969-8185</i>	<i>800/580-4879</i>
<i>West Columbia</i>	<i>Women's Center of Brazoria County, Inc</i>	<i>979/345-5014</i>	
<i>Wharton</i>	<i>The Crisis Center</i>	<i>979/531-1300</i>	
Wichita Falls	First Step, Inc.	940/723-1646	800/658-2683 or 940/692-1993

(Agencies in italics are satellite or outreach offices)

NOTABLE QUOTABLES

“Speak Up, Speak Out, Border To Border” Quotes

When we have the courage to speak out- to break our silence- we inspire the rest of the “moderates” in our communities to speak up and to vote their views.

--Sharon Schuster

The voice of conscience is so delicate that it’s easy to stifle it, but it is also so clear that it’s impossible to mistake it.

--Madame de Stael

Half the misery in the world comes of want of courage to speak and to hear the truth plainly, and in the spirit of love.

--Harriet Beecher Stowe

I resent the idea that people would blame the messenger for the message, rather than looking at the content of the message itself.

--Anita Hill

Courageous risks are life giving, they help you grow, make you brave and better than you think you are.

--Joan Curcio

By not coming forward [about rape], you make yourself a victim forever.

--Kelly McGillis, actress & rape survivor

Although the world is full of suffering, it is full also of the overcoming of it.

--Helen Keller

I like people who refuse to speak until they are ready to speak.

--Lillian Hellman

Our deeds determine us, as much as we determine our deeds.

--George Eliot

The sad truth is that most evil is done by people who never make up their minds to be good or evil.

--Hannah Arendt

You gain strength, courage, and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face...you must do the thing which you think you cannot do.

--Eleanor Roosevelt

Additional Inspirational Quotes

Do not wait for leaders, do it alone, person to person.

--Mother Teresa

Cautious, careful people, always casting about to preserve their reputations...can never effect a reform.

--Susan B. Anthony

You can really change the world if you care enough.

--Marion Wright Edelman

You're either part of the solution or part of the problem.

--Eldridge Cleaver

When in doubt tell the truth.

--Mark Twain

I refuse to accept the idea that the "isness" of man's present nature makes him morally incapable of reaching the "oughtness" that forever confronts him.

--Martin Luther King, Jr.

And the trouble is, if you don't risk anything, you risk even more.

--Erica Jong

Man's discovery that his genitalia could serve as a weapon to generate fear must rank as one of the most important discoveries of prehistoric times, along with the use of fire and the first crude stone axe.

--Susan Brownmiller

A man must do what he must- in spite of personal consequences, in spite of obstacles and dangers and pressures- and that is the basis of all humanity.

--John F. Kennedy

Lying is done with words and also with silence

--Adrienne Rich

You may have to fight a battle more than once to win it.

--Margaret Thatcher

I'm mad as hell, and I'm not going to take it anymore.

--Paddy Cheyevsky- "Network" screenplay

USING THE INTERNET

The Internet is a valuable tool for raising awareness about sexual violence, listing local resources and data, and promoting events and volunteer opportunities. If your organization has a web site, be sure to post a notice that April is Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month and include a calendar listing local events that individuals can participate in.

Explore the Internet to see which local businesses, government agencies, schools, or community organizations have their own web sites and see if they would include a link to your organization's site. Most cities, local government agencies and elected officials have their own Internet page. Write a letter to the person in charge of the content on their site and encourage them to link their web site to yours (see fill-in-the-blank letter for Internet links).

SAMPLE LETTER REQUESTING INTERNET LINKS

March 15, 2004

Katherine Morrison
YWCA
123 Main Street
Wilmington, TX 22222

Dear Ms. Morrison:

As you may already be aware, April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month. During the month, sexual assault programs nationwide will hold events and activities to draw public attention to the epidemic of sexual violence, supporting rape survivors and letting attackers know that communities will hold them responsible.

In our community, our organization is sponsoring [DESCRIBE YOUR AWARENESS MONTH ACTIVITIES].

I am writing to ask you to provide a link on your web site to our organization's web site, [YOUR WEB SITE ADDRESS], to help promote Sexual Assault Awareness Month and the events we are hosting. Our site includes [STATISTICS ON SEXUAL ASSAULT, AVAILABLE LOCAL RESOURCES AND PROGRAMS, A CALENDAR OF LOCAL EVENTS AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES, ETC.].

The statistics are staggering. In America, 78 women are forcibly raped each hour. It is estimated that 92,700 males are forcibly raped each year. One in three girls and one in six boys are sexually abused. Sexual violence affects all of us - every community, every family. This month, [YOUR ORGANIZATION] and other sexual assault programs are

drawing public attention to this issue through local events and on the Internet, letting people know that they have a responsibility to work to prevent sexual violence and there are local resources available to victims and their families.

I look forward to talking to you about promoting our organizations efforts. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at [512/555-1212].

Sincerely,

[YOUR NAME]

Source: National Sexual Violence Resource Center, Sexual Assault Awareness Month
Resource Book, March 2001

SAAM RESOURCE GUIDE EVALUATION

Please take a moment to let TAASA know if the *2004 SAAPM Resource Guide* was useful to you and your organization. Check the appropriate boxes in the following chart, and also let us know any ideas you have that could be utilized in the *2005 SAAPM Resource Guide*.

RESOURCE GUIDE COMPONENT	EXTREMELY HELPFUL	SOMEWHAT HELPFUL	NOT AT ALL HELPFUL
Theme: Speak Up. Speak Out.			
Work Plan			
Sample Proclamation			
“How-To” Project Suggestions			
Hints for Successful Projects			
More Ideas for Events or Projects			
Green Ribbon Week, Where do I Start?			
Green Ribbon Week, Bracelet Order Form			
Green Ribbon Week, Student Activity Ideas			
Working With the Media			
Sample Letter to the Editor			
Sample Press Release			
Sample Radio PSAs			
Sample Radio PSAs (Spanish)			
Sample Opinion Editorial/Letter to the Editor			
Quotes			
Sample Letter Requesting Internet Links			
Electronic Version of SAAPM Packet			
Other			

Please share your comments and ideas for improving or expanding the *SAAM Resource Guide* and **attach examples of your community's activities for 2004 Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month.**

Please give us suggestions for objectives, themes, activities, artwork, etc., for future use.

Return this evaluation form by **May 31, 2004** to:
 Sherry Hostetter
 7701 N. Lamar, Suite 200 Austin, TX 78752
 FAX 512-474-6490 x8888
 E-mail shostetter@taasa.org

Thank you for your assistance in evaluating the *2004 Sexual Assault Awareness Month Resource Guide*.