Unifying Voices Against Sexual Assault In Texas

TAASA

Texas Association Against Sexual Assault

☆ What Is Sexual Assault?

Sexual assault is a violent crime based on control and humiliation that is increasing at an alarming rate in Texas. It is not a sexually motivated act. It stems from aggression, rage and a desire to exercise power over someone else.

Nearly 2 million adult Texans have been sexually assaulted in their lifetime – almost 13% of Texas residents.

☆ What Is TAASA?

Since 1982, the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault (TAASA) has been a unifying voice and catalyst for change committed to ending sexual violence in Texas. TAASA is a non-profit organization that brings together parties involved in and affected by sexual assault through a statewide network of more than 70 crisis centers and services in both rural and metropolitan areas. The agency has a strong record of success in community education, legal services, youth outreach, law enforcement training, legislative advocacy, and curricula and materials development.

☆ Facts On Sexual Assault

- Every two minutes, someone is sexually assaulted in the state of Texas
- The vast majority of rape victims – nearly 80% – know the person who rapes them
- An estimated 82% of all rapes go unreported

☆ The Impact of Sexual Assault on Victims

- Fewer than 20% of sexual assaults are reported to the authorities in the state of Texas because of shame, fear, hurt and anger.
- 13% of rape victims attempt suicide; 30% contemplate suicide.
- Family and friends not only help their loved one deal with the effects of an assault, but must manage their own feelings about the victimization of someone they care about.
- Communities affected by this crime against a fellow citizen become more concerned about their personal safety.

☆ How Texans Feel About Sexual Assault

- In Texas, 6 out of 10 adults and more than half of teenagers say sexual assault is a personal worry.
- A third of Texan adults say sexual assault is one of their biggest worries.
- Many Texans have only a surface understanding of what constitutes sexual assault, and more than a quarter of Texans are very misinformed about its parameters.

☆ Communication Is the Key

In response to a clear demand for action, TAASA and partner groups have made a commitment to raise awareness of sexual assault across the state.

These agencies are working together to strengthen current outreach and communications to reach Texans with information about sexual assault and the devastating impact it has on our families and communities. TAASA is committed to focusing attention on the services and resources available to prevent sexual assault and support survivors.

More than half of all Texans are unaware of the sexual assault crisis centers in their community. TAASA works to let survivors of sexual assault know that they are not alone. Legal, financial and emotional help is available across Texas to assist victims.

☆ Working Together to Make a Difference

TAASA is helping to educate Texans about sexual assault by coordinating sexual assault prevention programs and conducting educational trainings for rape crisis centers, law enforcement, service agencies, community groups and schools. As an advocate on behalf of survivors and local crisis centers, TAASA supports laws and funding for prevention and response efforts. The agency also disseminates materials about sexual assault for adults and children in English and Spanish.

Below are examples of special programs through which TAASA is raising awareness of the issue of sexual assault to help Texans understand that together we can reduce and ultimately end sexual violence.

☆ Sexual Assault Awareness Month

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Texas – a month dedicated to educating the public about this "silent crime." It is a time for our communities to consider how we can work together to reduce sexual assault and respond to survivors in a way that enables them to heal and regain control in their lives.

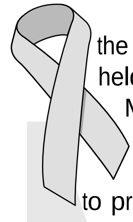
In observance of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, TAASA, in conjunction with crisis centers throughout the state, hosts and participates in events to help increase awareness and involvement to end sexual violence. Events have included training sessions for communities of faith, Take Back the Night rallies, Walkathons Against Abuse and artistic events.

☆ Students Taking Action for Respect (STAR)

Guided by research that shows peers have the greatest influence on teens, TAASA developed the Students Taking Action for Respect (STAR) program, which trains students in Texas schools to carry out a curriculum addressing sexual harassment. STAR is one of very few programs about sexual assault that is geared for youth, designed by youth and led by youth.

STAR incorporates positive messages directed at reducing sexual harassment and assault in schools. Through workshops and organized activities, STAR students are trained to deal with sexual harassment while building an environment of respect within their schools. In the program's first two years, TAASA trained more than 300 students from across the state as peer educators.

☆ Green Ribbon Week



In addition to STAR, TAASA coordinates the annual Green Ribbon Week, which is held in April during Sexual Assault Awareness Month. During Green Ribbon Week, school educators address a variety of issues pertaining to sexual assault in order to promote student safety and awareness in junior high and high schools. Students, teachers, law enforcement officers, medical personnel and others are encouraged to wear green ribbons to recognize and raise awareness of sexual assault issues. In past years, students have participated in a variety of activities including art displays, essay contests, and student-led awareness programs.

☆ Texas Association Against Sexual Assault

TAASA is committed to ending sexual violence in Texas through education, prevention, and advocacy. It also supports survivors on their paths to hope, healing and justice.

TAASA

Texas Association Against Sexual Assault

7701 N. Lamar Blvd. Suite 200
Austin, Texas 78752
512.474.7190 phone
512.474.6490 fax

taasa.org

TAASA Member Agencies

Abilene
Crime Victim Crisis Center
915/677-6448
Hotline: 915/677-7895

Alice
Family Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention Center of South Texas
361/664-8598
Hotline: 800/580-4878

Alpine
Family Crisis Center of the Big Bend, Inc.
915/837-7254
Hotline: 800/834-0654

Amarillo
Family Support Services
806/372-3202 Hotline: 800/749-9026 or 806/374-5433
Spanish Hotline: 800/799-7233

Angleton
Women's Center of Brazoria County, Inc
979/849-9553
Hotline: 800/243-5788

Austin
SafePlace:
Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Survival Center
512/267-SAFE
Hotline: 512/267-SAFE

Bastrop
Family Crisis Center
512/321-7760
Hotline: 888/311-7755

Bay City
Matagorda County Women's Center, Inc.
979/245-9109
Hotline: 800/451-9234 or 979/245-9299

Baytown
Bay Area Women's Center
281/424-3300
Hotline: 800/824-4807

Beaumont
Rape & Suicide Crisis of SE Texas
409/832-6530
Hotline: 800/793-2273

Beeville
Family Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention Center of South Texas
361/362-1187
Hotline: 800-580-4878

Big Lake
Friends For Hope
915/884-2281
Hotline: 915/884-9804

Big Spring
Victim Services of Big Spring
915/263-3312
915/263-3312

Bonham
Fannin County Family Crisis Center
903/583-7694
Hotline: 903/583-7000

Borger
Hutchinson County Crisis Center
806/274-9677
Hotline: 806/273-2313

Brownsville
Family Crisis Center
956/544-7273
Hotline: 956/544-7273

Friendship of Women
956/541-1644
Hotline: 956/544-7412

Bryan
Brazos Co. Rape Crisis Center
979/731-1000
Hotline: 979/731-1000

Carrizo Springs
Wintergarden Women's Shelter
830/876-9656
Hotline: 800/363-9441

Cleburne
Johnson County Family Crisis Center
817/558-7171
Hotline: 817/641-2332

Corpus Christ
Family Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention Center of South Texas
361/884-2900
Hotline: 361/881-8888

Dallas
Victims Outreach
214/358-5173
Hotline: 214/358-5693

Incest Recovery Program, The Family Place
214/443-7701
Hotline: 214/941-1991

Parkland Rape Crisis Center
214/590-0430
Hotline: 214/590-0430

Del Rio
Amistad Family Violence & Rape Crisis Center
830/775-9612
Hotline: 888/774-2744

Denton
Denton County Friends of the Family
940/387-5131 or Metro 972/219-2829
Hotline: 800/572-4031 or 940/382-7273

Dumas
Safe Place, Inc.
806/935-7585
Hotline: 800/753-7553 or 806/935-2828

Eastland
Eastland County Crisis Center
254/629-3223
Hotline: 888/686-3222

El Paso
STARS: Sexual Trauma & Assault Response Services
915/533-7700
Hotline: 915/779-1800

Fort Worth
The Women's Center
817/927-4039
Hotline: 817/927-2737

Gainesville
Cooke County Friends of the Family
940/665-2873
Hotline: 877/846-4751 or 940/665-2873

Galveston
Women's Resource and Crisis Center of Galveston Co., Inc
409/763-1441
Hotline: 888/919-SAFE or 409/765-SAFE

Grand Prairie
Brighter Tomorrows
972/263-0506
Hotline: 972/262-8383

Greenville
Crisis Center of Northeast Texas
903/454-9999
Hotline: Metro 903/450-1005

Harlingen
Family Crisis Center
956/423-9304
Hotline: 956/423-9304

Hempstead
Focusing Families
979/826-3290
Hotline: 979/826-0000 or 888/BE SAFE-9

Hereford
Women & Children's Crisis Center
806/364-4435
Hotline: 806/363-6727

Hondo
Southwest Family Life Center
830/426-5972
Hotline: 830/426-5131

Houston
Montrose Counseling Center, Inc.
713/529-0037
Hotline: 800/699-0504 or 713/529-3211

Houston Area Women's Center
713/528-6798
Hotline: 800/256-0661 or 713/528-7273

Humble
Familytime Foundation
281/446-2615
Hotline: 281/446-2615

Huntsville
Sexual Assault & Abuse Free Environment (SAAFE HOUSE)
936/291-3529
Hotline: 936/291-3369
Polk Co. Hotline 936/327-2513

Jacksonville
Cherokee Co. Crisis Center, Inc.
903/586-9118
Hotline: 800/232-8519

Kerrville
Hill Country Crisis Council
830/257-7088
Hotline: 830/257-2400 or 888/621-0047

Kilgore
Kilgore Community Crisis Center
903/984-3019
Hotline: 800/333-9148

Killeen
Families in Crisis, Inc.
254/634-1184
Hotline: 888/799-7233

Kingsville
Women's Shelter of South Texas
361/516-0288
Hotline: 800-580-4878 or 361/516-0330

Kountze
Hardin County Crime Victims' Assistance Center
409/246-4300
Hotline: 409/246-4300

Laredo
Serving Children and Adolescents in Need, Inc. (SCAN)
956/724-3177
Hotline: 800/355-7226

Longview
Women's Center of East Texas, Inc.
903/295-7846
Hotline: 903/295-7526 or 800/441-5555

Lubbock
Lubbock Rape Crisis Center
806/763-3232
Hotline: 806/763-7273

Lufkin
Women's Shelter of East Texas
936/639-1681
Hotline: 936/639-1681 or 800/828-7233

Marble Falls
Highland Lakes Family Crisis Center
830/693-3656
Hotline: 800/66-HELP4 or 830/693-5600

McAllen
Women Together
956/630-4878
Hotline: 800/580-4879

Midland
Midland Rape Crisis
915/682-7273
Hotline: 915/682-7273

Midlothian
Freedom Counseling Associates, Inc
972/723-0044
Hotline: 972/305-7462

Mount Pleasant
Shelter Agencies for Families in East Texas, Inc. (Safe-T)
903/572-0973
Hotline: 903/575-9999

Nacogdoches
Women's Shelter of East Texas
936/569-1018
Hotline: 800/828-7233

New Braunfels
Comal County Women's Center
830/620-7520
Hotline: 800/434-8013

Odessa
Center for Crisis Advocacy
915/333-2527
Hotline: 800/658-6779

Pampa
Tralee Crisis Center
806/669-1131
Hotline: 800/658-2796

Paris
Family Haven
903/784-6901
Hotline: 800/44-HAVEN

Pasadena
The Bridge Over Troubled Waters
713/472-0753
Hotline: 713/473-280

Pearsall
Southwest Family Life Center
830/426-5972
Hotline: 830/334-4556

Perryton
Panhandle Crisis Center
806/435-5008
Hotline: 800/753-5308

Plainview
Hale County Crisis Center
806/293-9772
Hotline: 806/293-7273

Plano
The Turning Point
972/985-0951
Hotline: 800/886-7273 or 972/985-0951

Pleasanton
Atascosa Family Crisis Center
830/569-2001
Hotline: 830/569-2001 or 877/569-2001

Port Lavaca
The Harbor Children's Alliance & Victim Center
361/552-1982
Hotline: 361/552-4357

Presidio
Family Crisis Center of the Big Bend, Inc.
915/229-4297
Hotline: 800/834-0654 or 915/837-2242

Richmond
Fort Bend County Women's Center
281/342-0251
Hotline: 281/342-4357

Round Rock
Williamson Co. Crisis Center
512/255-1212
Hotline: 800/460-7233

San Angelo
Assault Victim Services of Concho Valley
915/944-8728
Hotline: 915/658-8888

San Antonio
The Rape Crisis Center for Children & Adults
210/521-7273
Hotline: 210/349-7273

San Marcos
Hays-Caldwell Women's Center
512/396-3404
Hotline: 512/396-4356

Sherman
Crisis Center
903/893-3909
Hotline: 903/893-5615

Sinton
Family Violence and Sexual Assault Prevention Center of South Texas
361/364-0661
Hotline: 800-580-4878

Snyder
Gateway Family Services
915/573-4351
Hotline: 800/578-8054

Spearman
Hansford County Crisis Center
806/659-3391
Hotline: 806/659-3391

Stephenville
Cross Timbers Family Services
254/965-5516
Hotline: 254/965-4357

Texarkana
Domestic Violence Prevention, Inc.
903/794-4000
Hotline: 800/876-4808

The Woodlands
Montgomery County Women's Center
281/292-4155
Hotline: 936/441-7273

Tyler
East Texas Crisis Center
903/509-2526
Hotline: 800/333-0358 or 903/595-5591

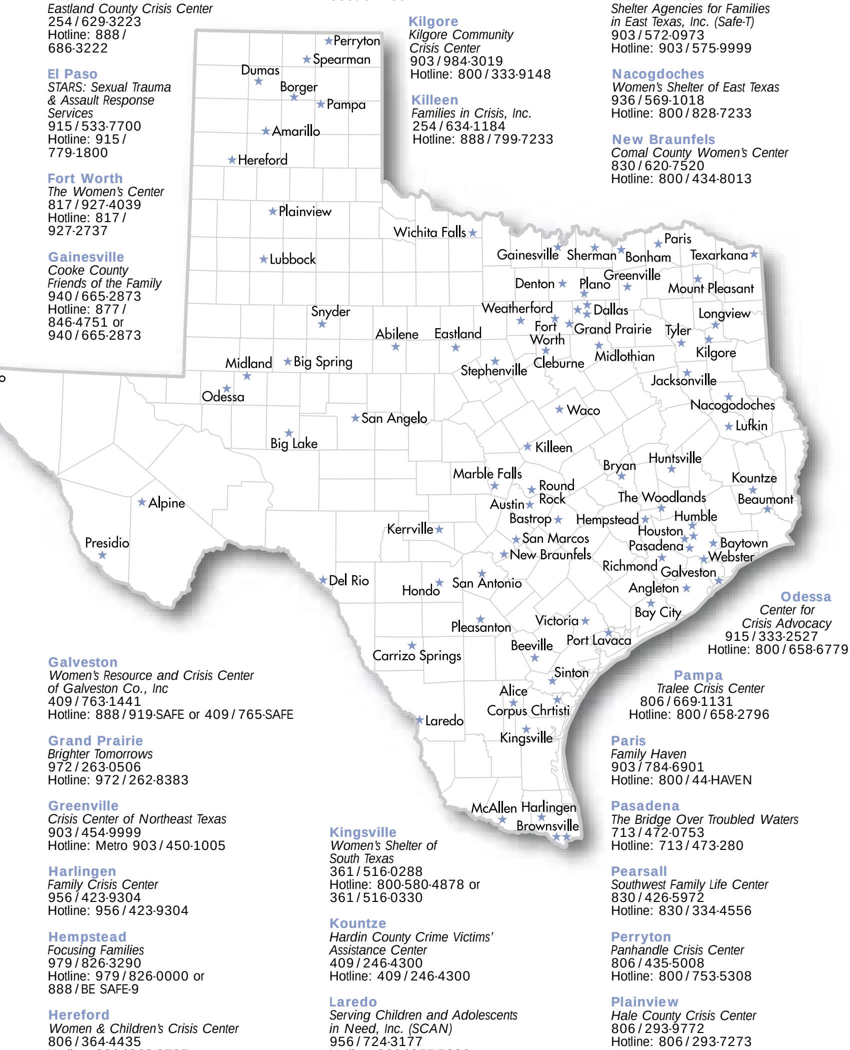
Uvalde
Southwest Family Life Center
830/426-5972
Hotline: 830/276-1067

Victoria
Hope of South Texas
361/573-5868
Hotline: 800/365-7345

Waco
Advocacy Center for Crime Victims & Children
254/752-9330
Hotline: 888/867-7233 or 254/752-7233

Weatherford
Freedom House
817/596-7543
Hotline: 817/596-8922

Webster
Bay Area Turning Point
281/338-7600
Shelter: 281/286-5133
Hotline: 281/286-2525

Weslaco
Women Together
956/969-8185
Hotline: 800/580-4879

Wichita Falls
First Step, Inc.
940/723-1646
Hotline: 800/658-2683 or 940/692-1993