



Sexual Assault Affects YOU!

Sexual assault does not discriminate. It knows no racial barriers, no economic barriers, no social barriers, no age barriers. Sexual assault exists in all neighborhoods, in all cities and in all countries.

Sexual violence affects all of us — every community and every family. The FBI and the Journal of Traumatic Stress estimate that one in three women, one in four girls, one in six boys and one in eleven men will be the victims of sexual assault at least once in their lives. That's one sexual assault every 90 seconds in the United States.

In New York State, more than 23,600 sexual offenses were reported to law enforcement in 2000.

For more information about rape crisis programs, sexual assault examiner programs or victims services in your area, contact NYSCASA at 518-482-4222 or visit our website at www.nyscasa.org.

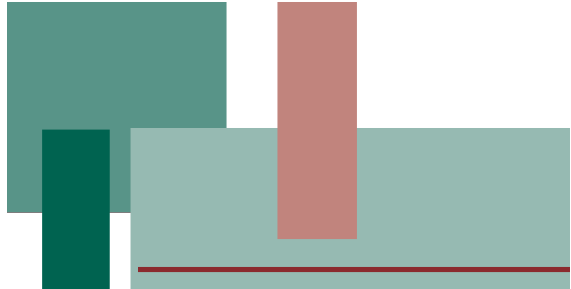
NYSCASA's Mission

Formed in 1987 as a private, nonprofit membership organization, the New York State Coalition Against Sexual Assault's mission is to end all forms of sexual violence and sexual exploitation by advocating an effective response to all people affected by sexual assault, providing technical support and assistance to Rape Crisis Centers, working legislatively to improve public policy, and confronting societal denial of the impact of sexual violence through statewide outreach and education.

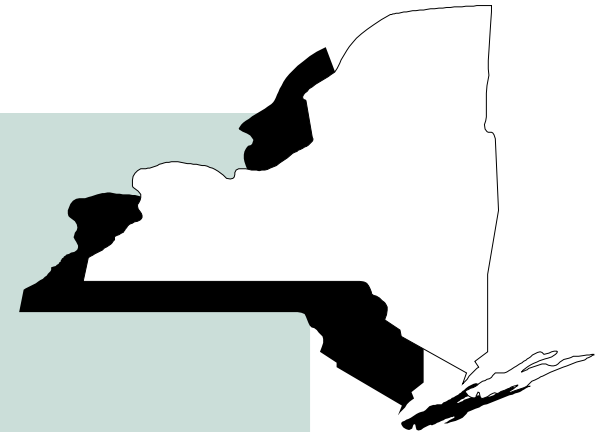


NYSCASA

63 Colvin Ave
Albany, NY 12206
(518) 482-4222
info@nyscasa.org
www.nyscasa.org



New York State Coalition Against Sexual Assault



Sexual Assault Examiner Programs in New York State

This project is supported by a grant awarded by the Violence Against Women Grants Office, Office of Justice Programs, US Department of Justice. Points of view in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the US Department of Justice.

Sexual Assault Examiner (SAE) programs are growing



The Sexual Assault Examiner (SAE) Program began in the 1970s by registered nurses in Tennessee, Minnesota and Texas and was introduced in New York in 1995.

In 1997, the Department of Criminal Justice Services funded a pilot and four additional programs across the state. Today, more than seventy sites offer SAE services in New York.

Acronyms that represent these programs are: SAE (Sexual Assault Examiner), SAFE (Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner) and SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner).

SAE goals

- To provide the sexual assault survivor with victim-centered, sensitive care which includes a comprehensive assessment and evaluation.
- To ensure quality evidence collection by a trained health care practitioner.
- To provide expert testimony when needed if the survivor reports the crime.

Participation in a sexual assault exam is ALWAYS confidential and voluntary

Services for sexual assault survivors including a forensic exam – are confidential and voluntary. Law enforcement’s involvement is at the discretion of the survivor.

A forensic examination may include:

- History and evaluation by specially trained examiners in a private setting with special equipment.
- Preventative medications for emergency contraception (pregnancy prevention) and for sexual transmitted infections, including HIV.
- Evidence collection and storage are also provided. Photography or videography may be used.
- Change of clothes and the use of a shower is provided as necessary following the exam.
- SAEs work with local providers, including rape crisis counselors and health care professionals, for follow-up care. They may also advocate with the criminal justice process, health referrals, counseling or other services.

Response to sexual assault needs to be a collaborative effort with many benefits. Responders and service provider teams may include:

Rape Crisis Center

Assured involvement as a result of SAE making timely notification to RCCs for advocate presence.

District Attorney
Law Enforcement
Local College Public Safety

Increased case resolution as a result of expert evidence collection, improving levels of prosecution.

Hospital Administrator
Patient Care Services Director
Director of Emergency Medicine

Enhanced patient care, reduced strain on existing ER resources.

Other service providers including mental health providers and domestic violence programs.

SAE costs

Forensic exams may be covered by various sources including the NYS Crime Victims Board compensation program, private insurance, Medicaid, and Medicare.