

ABOUT OUR AGENCY

Family Services of North Alabama's mission is to inspire, empower, and promote positive parenting through education, resource networking, and related services, and to empower, educate, assist and provide advocacy for victims of sexual assault in Marshall County and surrounding areas through the agency's Sexual Assault Support Services program.

Family Services of North Alabama is a private, nonprofit corporation governed by a board of directors made up of community volunteers.

Family Services of North Alabama is funded by United Way of Marshall County and community donations.



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FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Family Services of North Alabama
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Guntersville, Alabama 35976

Phone: (256) 660-5100

Crisis Line: (855) 878-9159

Email: info@FamilyServicesNA.org

Web: <http://www.FamilyServicesNA.org>

Family Services of North Alabama

provides

*Sexual Assault Support Services in
Marshall & DeKalb Counties of Alabama.*

WHAT TO DO IF YOU ARE SEXUALLY ASSAULTED

- ◆ Do your best to become free of the attacker and proceed to a safe place
- ◆ Do not shower, brush your teeth, eat, or drink
- ◆ Do not use the bathroom before obtaining medical attention
- ◆ Do not remove clothing that you wearing during the assault
- ◆ Report directly to a hospital and seek medical attention
- ◆ Request that a Victim Advocate be contacted
- ◆ Recording details is an important action following an assault



Sexual Assault
Support Services
(SASS)



24 Hour Hotline:
(855) 878-9159

Office:
(256) 660-5100



SEXUAL ASSAULT SUPPORT SERVICES

24-HOUR SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE

- ◆ A SANE program located within a caring, secure atmosphere for rape kit procedures with SANE trained nurses, free clothing, prophylactic antibiotics for possible exposure to STDs, and pregnancy prevention options.
- ◆ A Victim Advocate, specially trained in sexual assault advocacy/counseling, provides victims and families support and information about sexual assault.
- ◆ 24-hour crisis line
- ◆ Medical Advocacy

SANE PROGRAM

The Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Program utilizes nurses who have been specially trained to provide comprehensive sexual assault exams. The nurses are competent in collection and documentation of forensic evidence. The specially trained nurses are qualified to appear in court as expert witnesses.

ADVOCACY SERVICES

LAW ENFORCEMENT:

Advocate works as a liaison between victims and law enforcement

CRIMINAL JUSTICE:

- ◆ Advocate accompanies victim to court hearings and provides the victim with emotional support through the judicial process.
- ◆ Assistance with Crime Victims' Compensation claims.
- ◆ Works with the District Attorney's Office and prepares victim for court.

MEDICAL:

Advocate accompanies victim during SANE examination and procedure

PERSONAL:

- ◆ Advocate assists victims in exercising their rights
- ◆ Provides referrals to community agencies to fulfill victim's needs

PREVENTION AND EDUCATION PROGRAM

The SASS Education Coordinator provides the following education and prevention trainings to the community, law enforcement, school personnel:

- ◆ Dynamics of sexual assault
- ◆ Local trends and laws
- ◆ Prevention
- ◆ Effects of sexual violence from the school yard to the work place
- ◆ Sexting and how to prevent sexual assault while dating
- ◆ College campus outreach
- ◆ Incarcerated victim outreach
- ◆ Crisis counseling
- ◆ Support group

COUNSELING SERVICES

Sexual Assault Advocate/Counselors are specially trained in providing emotional support for primary and secondary victims. However, SASS Advocates are not licensed therapists, therefore victims many times will be referred to a licensed therapist who specializes in sexual assault victimization trauma.