Become Involved

It is important for people to be informed about domestic violence and sexual assault. Abuse can affect anyone regardless of age, sex, class, financial status, religion or nationality. There is help for those in trouble. Break the cycle of abuse by breaking the silence. You can help victims of abuse by encouraging them that it is not their fault, and that there is support and guidance available for them. The SAFE of Harnett County website has an abundant amount of information on all types of abuse. You can visit this website at www.safeofhc.org.

Volunteer

Volunteering can be a rewarding experience, and it is a great way to have a positive impact in your community. Volunteers help to make a difference at SAFE. SAFE of Harnett County always welcomes volunteers. Volunteers assist with administrative tasks, answering the crisis line, sorting clothes at the thrift store, etc. For more information about volunteering, please call us at 893-7233 or stop by our office to fill out a volunteer application.

Donate

It is through the support of generous donors that SAFE of Harnett County is able to continue to provide assistance to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Without the contributions of outside donors and volunteers, SAFE would not be able to accomplish all that it does. Please consider giving a financial contribution in support of SAFE of Harnett County today. If you would like to donate to SAFE, you can call our office, stop by in person, or donate on our website at www.safeofhc.org. Financial contributions go to assist the victims served by SAFE of Harnett County.

Please visit...
SAFE of Harnett County’s
Fantastic Finds Thrift Store

Fantastic Finds Thrift Store is a place where people can donate clothing and household items that are in good condition. Fantastic Finds is located beside Harnett County News in Lillington. All proceeds go to assist the clients served by SAFE of Harnett County.

Thrift Store Hours:
Monday - Friday: 10 am - 7 pm
Saturday & Sunday Closed

Fantastic Finds Thrift Store
405 North Main Street
Lillington, NC 27546
910-893-9115

SAFE of Harnett County
24 Hour Crisis Line:
910-893-7233

S.A.F.E. of Harnett County, Inc.
P.O. Box 728
Lillington, NC 27546
Office/24 Hour Crisis Line:
(910) 893-7233
Fax: (910) 893-3508
www.safeofhc.org

24 Hour Crisis Line:
910-893-7233

S.A.F.E. of Harnett County, Inc.
P.O. Box 728
Lillington, NC 27546
About S.A.F.E. of Harnett County, Inc.

History
SAFE of Harnett County, Inc. is an individual, private, non-profit organization initially formed as Rape Crisis Intervention of Harnett County (RCI) in October of 1987 to provide advocacy and support to victims and survivors of sexual assault. By 1989, RCI expanded services to include victims of domestic violence. A part-time director was hired in 1989 with an office located in the Walker Building in Lillington. As is true with most victim service agencies, consistent funding was hard to find. During the early years it was not unusual for staff positions and services to be increased for a period of six months to a year, only later to be lost and services reduced. Since the early days, the agency has increased in staffing, programming services and revenue.

Our mission
The mission of SAFE of Harnett County, Inc. is to provide safety and serve as an advocate for sexual assault and domestic violence victims/survivors and their families. To provide information, to increase awareness, and to empower individuals, families and the community to make choices in order to stop the cycle of abuse.

Our services
– 24 Hour Crisis Line
– Emergency Support
– Courtroom Companion
– Restraining Order Assistance
– Housing Assistance
– Shelter
– Support Groups

Domestic Violence
Domestic violence occurs when two individuals get into a close relationship and one person exercises a pattern of force and power on the other person throughout the relationship and/or after the relationship has ended. Many times it consists of physical, sexual, emotional or financial abuse. It is a pattern of behavior designed to control another person, through the use of threats, violence, harassment or intimidation.

Domestic violence is the performance of one or more of the following acts:
– Attempting to or causing bodily injury to you or your minor child.
– Placing you or your minor child in fear of serious bodily injury by threats or force.

Elder Abuse
Seniors are frequently the victims of random acts of violence such as assault, robbery and rape. Adults are not necessarily less susceptible to these crimes as they age. Old age and impairment decrease personal power and thereby increase risk of abuse.

Sexual Assault
Sexual assault is a violent crime in which the attacker uses sex to cause violence and shame on the victim, or to exercise power and control over the victim. Sexual assault consists of many types of crimes including rape, incest, sexual harassment, child molestation, marital rape, exposure and voyeurism. Offenders can use threat of force, trickery, coercion or bribery to intimidate the victim. It is common for the attacker to take advantage of a type of power imbalance such as age, size, strength, development, knowledge or status to disgrace, violate and control the victim. Many assaults take place in the victim’s home and are committed by someone known to the victim.

Rape
Rape is sexual violence and it occurs anytime someone forces another person to have sex.

Sexual Harassment
Sexual harassment is when someone talks about sex, gestures or touches another person in a sexual way that makes the other person feel uncomfortable.

Stalking
Stalking is any unwanted pursuit. It is the willful and recurring following of another person in order to instill fear and invade the privacy of that individual.

Signs of Abuse
Abusers may:
– be jealous, controlling or threatening
– have a bad temper
– use drugs or alcohol as an excuse for their actions
– use intimidation or threats to gain compliance
– blame the victim for their actions
– make the victim feel there is no way out of the relationship

Where to go?
If you (and your minor child) are the victim of abuse, you can seek support from friends and family, and report the abuse to law enforcement. If you are a victim of sexual assault, do not bathe and do not change your clothes. Be sure to seek medical attention immediately. If you have to leave your home in an emergency, do not forget important papers that you may need (marriage license, birth certificates, Social Security cards, etc.) No one has the right to abuse you. There is hope. We are here to help.

Victim’s Rights
– To receive protection from harm and threats of harm
– To be notified of financial assistance and other social services that might be available to you. Also, to be informed of the procedures to apply for Victim’s Compensation where applicable.

If you file charges, you have the right:
– To be notified when a court hearing will be held concerning your case
– To have a secure waiting area away from the defendant
– To have stolen or other personal property returned as soon as possible when it is no longer needed for evidence
– To inform your employer of the court proceedings when you need to be absent from work
– To have information concerning the effect that the crime has had on you as part of the court record
– To be informed of the outcome of your case, including the verdict, sentence and time that the offender will be released
– You have the right to restitution

Who can help?
Harnett County Sheriff’s Office……….910-893-9111
Betsy Johnson Regional Hospital……….910-892-7161
Sandhills Mental Health……………………910-893-5727
Harnett Co. Dept. of Social Services……….910-893-7500
Magistrate’s Office…………………….910-814-4499
Lillington Police Department……….910-893-3015
Angier Police Department……….910-639-2699
Coats Police Department……….910-897-5183
Erwin Police Department……….910-897-5122
Dunn Police Department……….910-892-2399
SAFE of Harnett County……….910-893-7233
National Domestic Violence Hotline……1-800-799-SAFE