

ASTOP Sexual Abuse Center

Impact on the Community

ASSIST SURVIVORS

Since 1992, 351 victims of sexual violence have presented themselves in the Emergency Department of St. Agnes Hospital. ASTOP's trained medical advocates accompany these individuals and act as a support person for the survivors and their family members. In collaboration with St. Agnes Hospital, a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) gathers forensic evidence and completes an examination for injuries. ASTOP's client/victim advocate then assists the victim as their cases move through the legal system while making referrals to other resources as necessary.

TREATMENT

Since April 6, 1992 ASTOP's professional therapists have provided cost-free therapy treatment to over 2,394 clients dealing with issues of sexual violence. Twenty-five percent of these individuals are children elementary age or younger; 22% are clients with developmental disabilities and the remaining are adult males and females. Included are affected family members. Education groups are provided for women residing in correctional halfway houses, females who are in recovery for substance abuse and those who are on the Inpatient Unit of St. Agnes Hospital. Adult and adolescent therapy groups for clients are provided according to need.

ASTOP provides a second location on a part-time basis in Ripon, Wisconsin. Sessions are held at the Ripon Medical Center for individual and family work. This allows services to be available to a larger geographic area as well as providing therapy to clients from other counties.

OUTREACH

Since July 6, 1992 ASTOP has received over 2,100 calls on its 24-hour crisis line. A pool of trained volunteers give to ASTOP 25 to 30 hours per month in order to be available if a person needs to speak with someone about issues dealing with sexual violence.

PREVENTION

Since August 1991, ASTOP taught 38,193 children, adolescents, adults and professionals, prevention education using the Protective Behaviors process. The program provides specific strategies to confidently face personal safety issues. Protective Behaviors has two themes which are: "We all have the right to feel safe all of the time...and others have the right to feel safe with us." and, "We can talk with someone (we trust) about anything no matter how awful or small."

ASTOP Inc.

A not-for-profit organization, ASTOP recognizes and is thankful for our individual and business supporters as well as the community cooperation for their involvement. St. Agnes Hospital continues to support ASTOP by donating office space because of their belief in our mission of working toward creating a safer environment from sexual violence. ASTOP is proud to be a member of the Fond du Lac Area United Way and Ripon United Way.