

Working together, we can create a safer community.

Many survivors experience severe physical and emotional trauma following a sexual assault. Talking about the experience can reduce stress, relieve anxiety and help survivors to regain a sense of control. Our Rape Crisis Advocates are available to provide confidential support and information to survivors and their families.



YOU ARE NOT ALONE! IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT!

South Santa Clara County & San Benito County Sexual Assault Services

- 24-hour crisis line
- Crisis intervention services
- Peer counseling for individuals, significant others, and family members
- Safety planning
- Medical and legal accompaniment and advocacy services
- Information and referrals
- Community education

All our services are FREE and available in both Spanish and English

The mission of Community Solutions is to create opportunities for positive change by promoting and supporting the full potential of individuals, the strengths of families, and the well being of our community.

Other services include:

- Prevention services on sexual assault, human trafficking, and healthy relationships.
- Training on human trafficking, sexual assault, and intimate partner abuse.
- Services for survivors of sexual assault, intimate partner abuse, and human trafficking, including: peer counseling, legal advocacy, safety planning, counseling services, support groups, confidential shelter, and resources and referrals.



Creating Opportunities • Changing Lives

Sexual Assault

It's Not Your Fault!



24-Hour Crisis Line

South Santa Clara County
San Benito County

1-(877) 363-7238
1-(877) END-SADV

The Reality of Sexual Assault

Sexual assault can happen to anyone: man, woman, or child, regardless of age, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or socio-economic status. It can happen day or night.

It is your right:

- to walk alone, even at night;
- to dress however you choose;
- to say no to sex, even if you have had sex with the person before;
- to say no to any unwanted touching;
- to have your choices respected.

Sexual assault is prevalent in our community.

Though this can be terrifying, there are some ways we can all work together to keep our community safe.

Believe in your right to make decisions about what happens to your body and to have those decisions respected.

Trust your own feelings. Pay attention to your "inner voice" that tells you when something or someone feels unsafe.

Express yourself clearly, without worrying about who you might offend. Your body is yours. You have the right to say NO.

Be an Upstander. If you see something, say something. It takes all of us to keep our community safe. If you see something happening, ask the individual if they're okay, help them to a safe place, or alert law enforcement if they should be involved.

The ultimate goal of any assault is to survive.
There is no "right way" to respond.

What is Consent?

Sexual assault is any sexual act done to another person without their consent. Just because someone does not say "no" does not mean they have given consent.

Consent is based on choice. Consent is active, not passive. Consent is possible only when there is equal power. Giving in because of fear is not consent. Persons under the influence of drugs or alcohol are incapable of giving consent.

If you were sexually assaulted, whether or not you choose to report the crime:

- Seek out support from someone you trust.
- Get medical attention. Consider the possibility of unwanted pregnancy and/or disease.
- Call a rape crisis center for information and to normalize what you may be feeling.

If a sexual assault happened within the last five days, a person can choose to have a SART (a forensic evidence collection exam). There are two options to obtain a SART exam: (1) An individual could choose to report the assault to law enforcement, after disclosing to law enforcement, the police may ask the survivor to undergo a SART exam. (2) If a person chooses not to report to law enforcement, they are still entitled to a SART exam to collect evidence and receive medical care without reporting to law enforcement. This exam is called a Non-Investigative exam. By completing this type of exam a person has two years to decide if they would like to talk with law enforcement regarding the details. Please call our crisis line for more information regarding any questions in relation to either option.

You have the right to have a sexual assault advocate with you during the exam to provide support and answer your questions.

If you choose to report, you have the right to have a sexual assault/CSEC advocate with you during the process to provide support and answer your questions.

A sexual assault advocate is provided by the following penal codes: Penal Code #264.2 and #679.04, as well as Evidence Code #1035.4.

Resources for Survivors

Community Solutions' 24-hour crisis line for

Sexual Assault, Intimate Partner Abuse, CSEC, and

Human Trafficking 877-363-7238

YWCA 24-hour crisis line 800-572-2782

Santa Clara County Victim Witness. 408-295-2656

San Benito County Victim Witness. 831-634-1397

SART Medical Clinic. 408-885-6466

Santa Clara County

Child Abuse Reporting Line. 408-683-0601

San Benito County

Child Abuse Reporting Line. 831-758-8261

Planned Parenthood. 877-855-7526

National Suicide Prevention Hotline. 800-273-8255

National AIDS Hotline. 800-342-2437

Runaway Hotline. 800-231-6946

Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network. 800-656-4673

National Domestic Violence Hotline. 800-799-7233

Community Solutions' Office Locations & Phone Numbers

Morgan Hill

16264 Church Street, Suite 103. (408) 779-2113

Gilroy

9015 Murray Avenue, Suite 100. (408) 842-7138

Hollister

341 Tres Pinos Road, Suite 201A. (831) 637-1094

Rape is a violent crime that is acted out sexually. It violates a person's right to have control over their body and their right to be safe.

Rape is not about sex; it is an expression of anger through the use of power and control.

It is never the survivor's fault.