

Who we are

CCASA is the primary sexual assault and sexual abuse crisis and education service provider for Calgary and surrounding areas. CCASA provides safe, accessible, professional services for people of all races, abilities, religions, sexual orientations, and genders.

Our Vision

Healthy communities free of sexual abuse and sexual assault.

Our Mission

Provide leadership to impact attitudes and actions around sexual abuse and sexual assault.

CCASA offers free and confidential services

- Individual Counselling
- Group Counselling *(sliding fee scale)
- 24-Hour Support and Information Line
- 24-Hour Toll Free Line (in Alberta)
- 24-Hour Hospital Accompaniment
- Public Education and Outreach
- Police And Court Education and Support (P.A.C.E.S.)

* There is a small fee for group counselling, however, no individual will be turned away if they cannot afford the fee.

Arrangements for interpreters available upon request.

For more information on our programs and services as well as community engagement and volunteer opportunities please visit:

Website: calgarycasa.com

Phone: 403-237-6905

Fax: 403-264-8355



Dedicated to reducing the impact of sexual abuse and sexual assault

CCASA is a proud partner of



Connect Family and Sexual Abuse Network is a partnership between Calgary and area service providers who are working together to simplify access to essential services for individuals and families affected by family and sexual violence. For more information please visit the Connect website at connectnetwork.ca.

Thank you to our funders



CCASA would also like to thank **The Printing House LTD.** for their quality work, efficiency, and unparalleled customer service.



ccasa

Calgary Communities

Against Sexual Abuse

Sexual Assault Response Team

(SART)

Providing confidential care and support to survivors of sexual assault

24-Hour Support and Information Line

403-237-5888

24-Hour Toll-Free

1-877-237-5888

TTY Line: 403-508-7888

Email/Online

info@calgarycasa.com

calgarycasa.com

CCASA

Suite 700, 910 7th Avenue SW
Calgary, Alberta T2P 3N8

Sexual Assault Response Team (SART)

The Sexual Assault Response Team is made up of medical, social and legal professionals that provide care to individuals who have been sexually assaulted within the past 72 hours. When accessing the Sexual Assault Response Team, you can choose to access one or more of the following services:

- Female doctors or nurses who have specialized training in sexual assault care. They will examine and treat you for injuries, provide you with STI and pregnancy testing and preventative care, and will follow up privately with results. They can also collect forensic evidence if you choose to report the sexual assault to police.
- A sexual assault worker from Calgary Communities Against Sexual Abuse will provide you with support and information on common reactions, assess your needs, inform you of your reporting options and provide you with referrals and follow-up with you if you choose.
- If you choose to report, police officers will take an initial statement from you, will answer questions regarding the investigation and will provide options if you are concerned about your safety.

SART members are trained in providing specialized sexual assault care and work together to make your experience at the hospital as compassionate as possible under the circumstances.

SART is available through the Sheldon Chumir Urgent Care Centre (1213 4th Street SW) and the Alberta Children's Hospital on a 24 hour a day basis, 365 days of the year. The team will travel to other hospitals when required.

Reporting Options

If you have experienced a sexual assault there are three reporting options:

Report - You can choose to report the crime to the police immediately and have evidence collected during the medical exam. The police will meet with you and take a statement, and will begin investigating the sexual assault following the report.

Not Report - You can choose not to report the crime to the police. You will still have the option to have your medical and emotional needs met by the rest of the team.

Third Option - You can choose the "Third Option" which gives you time to decide if you want to report the crime or not. With this option, evidence will be collected and stored for up to one year allowing you the time to choose which reporting decision is best for you.

What is Sexual Assault?

The Criminal Code of Canada states that sexual assault is any form of sexual contact without a person's consent or voluntary agreement. Sexual Assault is any **unwanted** sexual contact including kissing, touching, groping, oral penetration, digital penetration, vaginal or anal penetration under ANY circumstances.

Consent:

- **Is a wanted encounter.** There has been a voluntary agreement to engage in a sexual activity with another person(s).
- **Is about respect and communication** between all persons involved in the sexual activity.
- **Must be obtained** for each and every sexual contact to occur.
- **Can be withdrawn.** A person is allowed to change her/his decision to participate in any sexual encounter or activity at any point in time.

Many people believe that they may have been responsible in some way for the sexual assault that happened to them and that they may have been able to prevent it had they done something differently. But the only person who could have prevented a sexual assault from happening is the person who committed the assault in the first place. Offenders know what they are doing is wrong and they are making a choice to commit a crime.

Sexual Assault Statistics

- Approximately 1 in 3 females and 1 in 6 males will experience some form of sexual abuse or exploitation in their lifetime (Badgley Report, 1984).
- Of sexual abuse and sexual assaults reported to police in Canada in 2002, 64% took place in a residence, 26% in a public place, and 11% in commercial places (Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, 2003).
- 61% of all survivors of sexual violence who reported to the police were children and youth under 18 years (Canadian Centre for Justice Statistics, 2003).

- Most individuals who were sexually assaulted (89%) experienced little or no physical injury (Statistics Canada, 1993).
- In cases reported to police, 80% of sexual abuse and sexual assault survivors knew their offenders. In only 20% of the crimes of sexual abuse and sexual assault was the offender a stranger to the survivor (Statistics Canada, 2003, The Daily, 25 July).
- False accusations of sexual violence are very rare and happen no more often than false reports of other types of crime. 96 to 98% of sexual violence reports are investigated to be factual (University of Alberta - Sexual Assault and the Law in Canada).