



Rape and Sexual Assault in Massachusetts, 2012-2013

Services Provided by Rape Crisis Centers

Sexual assault is a serious social and public health problem in Massachusetts. Between July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013, 2,319 unduplicated incidents of sexual assault were reported to Massachusetts Department of Public Health (MDPH)-funded Rape Crisis Centers (RCCs), including the statewide Spanish-language hotline. Of these, 1,731 incidents were reported by survivors themselves and an additional 564 were reported by partners, family members, friends and professionals. In Massachusetts, an estimated 16.0% of women and 5.5% of men have reported experiencing sexual assault[‡] in their lifetimes¹.

To respond to the needs of survivors of sexual violence, at least four types of services were provided through the MDPH Sexual Assault Prevention and Survivor Services (SAPSS) program: 24-hour hotlines, prevention education and professional training, individual and group counseling, and client accompaniment. To carry out these activities, MDPH contracted with 17 locally-based RCCs across Massachusetts (some with multiple sites). Jane Doe Inc., the state sexual assault and domestic violence prevention coalition, also provides MDPH-funded educational and professional training activities. This document summarizes services delivered over a one-year time period, from July 1, 2012 – June 30, 2013.

24-Hour Hotline Services²

Hotline services were provided 24/7 by each local RCC, one of which also offers a statewide Spanish-language hotline number. The dedicated statewide Spanish-language hotline received 884 of the 15,170 calls that came in to RCCs during FY2013. Callers to the hotlines included sexual assault survivors, their significant others (i.e., partners, family members, and friends), and professionals (e.g., physicians, teachers, therapists). Support and resource referral services were provided on an as-needed basis to these individuals. Because callers may use the hotlines repeatedly and anonymously, the number of calls to the hotlines is a measure of service use, not sexual assault incidents reported to MDPH-funded RCCs or the number of individuals using the hotlines.

24-Hour Sexual Assault Hotline: Calls by Relationship of Caller to a Survivor		
Survivor Calls	Other Hotline Calls	Total Calls
9,728	5,442	15,170

NOTE: Federal Sexual Assault Services Program (SASP) funds supported 17% of the total hotline call responses in FY13. Each hotline is required to have multilingual interpretation services and TTY/Relay access.

Educational & Professional Training Activities

Community educational and professional training activities were offered through each RCC and Jane Doe Inc. Education was provided for two main audiences: (1) non-professional populations such as students, civic organizations, and faith-based groups, and; (2) professional audiences such as health care providers, police, and teachers. The statewide coalition, Jane Doe Inc. provided many types of educational services; Jane Doe Inc. counts presented below reflect only Jane Doe Inc.'s major conferences and statewide training sessions funded by MDPH.

Educational and Professional Training Activities by Source and Type

[‡] Lifetime sexual assault is defined as ever having experienced rape, attempted rape, or physical sexual assault. This is not the definition used prior to FY2006. Pre-FY2006 statistics, therefore, may not be comparable.

¹Commonwealth of Massachusetts. A Profile of Health Among Massachusetts Adults, 2012: Results from the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System. Boston, Massachusetts: Health Survey Program, Bureau for Health Information, Statistics, Research, and Evaluation, Department of Public Health.

	Community Education		Professional Training		Total	
	Sessions	Persons	Sessions	Persons	Sessions	Persons
RCCs	599	20,072	211	4,369	810	24,441
Jane Doe Inc.	1	30	12	293	13	323
Total	600	20,102	223	4,662	823	24,764

NOTE: FY2013 Educational and Professional Training numbers are not comparable to counts from fiscal years 2011 and earlier due to a change in the rules for reporting activities that consist of multiple sessions.

Counseling and Client Accompaniment Services

Individual counseling and client accompaniment services provided by each local RCC included: short-term individual counseling, medical (including support during forensic evidence collection exams), legal, and police accompaniment, assistance accessing social services, and advocating for a client when the client is not actually present (collateral sessions/time). Group counseling sessions provided by the RCCs offered essential opportunities for individuals to support one another through the healing process.

Total Individual Counseling, Client Accompaniment, and Collateral Service <u>Sessions</u>²	16,755
Total Individual Counseling and Accompaniment Sessions	14,817
Total Collateral Time-Only Sessions	1,938
Total Unduplicated Counseling, Client Accompaniment, and Collateral Time <u>Clients Served</u>³	2,998
Counseling Session Clients	2,179
Medical Accompaniment Session Clients ⁴	962
Legal Accompaniment Session Clients ³	399
<i>258E Restraining Order Clients</i>	14
<i>Other Civil Legal Matter Clients</i>	216
<i>Criminal Legal Matter Clients</i>	234
Police Accompaniment Session Clients	96
Housing Accompaniment Session Clients	119
Financial Accompaniment Session Clients	95
School Accompaniment Session Clients	< 7
(Post-Secondary) School Accompaniment Clients	40
Other Accompaniment Session Clients	36
Collateral Service and Collateral Hours Clients ⁵	2,078
Group Counseling <u>Sessions</u> Conducted	870

NOTE: Federal SASP funds supported sessions for 21% of the clients served by RCCs in FY13.

For more information about sexual assault services and a list of MDPH-funded rape crisis centers, please see the Sexual Assault Prevention and Survivor Services website at: <http://www.mass.gov/dph/sexualassaultservices>. For more information about the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner program (SANE), please go to <http://www.mass.gov/dph/sane>. If you need help, please contact your local rape crisis center.

²Due to changes in data coding, these numbers are not comparable to those reported for years prior to FY2007

³Numbers of individual clients by service type will add up to more than the total, unduplicated count because some clients received multiple service types from the same RCC.

⁴These 962 clients were seen in a total of 1,082 sessions during FY2013 (some clients received more than one medical accompaniment session).

⁵Time spent advocating on a client's behalf in the client's absence was reported prior to FY2007 as it is in this report. The FY2007 number is not comparable.

