



KNOW MORE NEWS



April 2019

April is...

Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) & Child Abuse Prevention Month (CAPM)

SAAM & National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW) Proclamation - April 8th @ 11a

Join GCASAFV members and partners, the Governor and Lieutenant Governor, our military leaders, and Senators of the 35th Guam Legislature at the Guam Community College Multi-Purpose Auditorium to proclaim Sexual Assault Awareness Month and National Crime Victims' Rights Week (April 7-13th) in collaboration with the Office of the Attorney General.



SAAM/CAPM Wave - April 10th @ 5-6p

Join us on Marine Drive across from Chamorro Village as we continue to raise awareness!

SAAM/CAPM Outreach Fair - April 20th @ 10a-2p

Come join us this year at the Agana Shopping Center's Center Court! Enjoy local entertainment and explore our members and partners information booths. See you there!

GCASAFV 2019 kNOW MORE Conference: "Sexual Assault Prevention Community Advocacy and Bystander Training" - April 24-25th



Please join us at the Sheraton Laguna Guam Resort for our annual conference! We are pleased to have Lt. Dawn Jones as this year's featured speaker. Lt. Jones has been a law enforcement officer for 25 years. She will also address Human Trafficking, Domestic Violence, and Sexual Assault. She promotes combined efforts between victim services, community professionals, community members, and law enforcement to assist the victims. Please register at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/APR2019kNOWMORE> by **Friday, April 19th**. We look forward to seeing you there!

GCASAFV Project Catalyst Training of Trainers - April 25-26th

Please join us as we launch our training of trainers at the Sheraton Laguna Guam Resort for domestic violence advocates and health care providers in partnership with Department of Public Health and Social Services and Pacific Islands Primary Care Association. As a result of attending this training, participants will be better able to promote healthy relationships through universal education in health care settings, provide targeted assessment for reproductive coercion with sexually active young women, connect patients experiencing violence to community resources, and balance adolescent safety and confidentiality with mandated reporting requirements. More information can be found on our website at guamcoalition.org.



GCASAFV General Membership Meeting - April 9th @ 11am

Please join us for our quarterly meeting in the GCASAFV Conference Room!

Members and Partners Announcements

"Date Night at the Cove"
WestCare Pacific Islands ;
Thursday, April 4th
6pm @ The Cove

"National Crime Victims' Rights Week (NCVRW) Outreach Fair"
Office of the Attorney General
Sunday, April 7th
10a – 2p @ Agana Shopping Center

"Andersen Family Advocacy Program Outreach"
Andersen FAP
Friday, April 12th
11a-2p @ Andersen Exchange

"Erica's House Outreach"
Erica's House
Wednesday, April 17th
12p-2p @ University Of Guam Humanities & Social Sciences Academic Building

"Denim Day Wave"
Victim Advocates Reaching Out
Wednesday, April 24th
5p-6p @ Marine Drive Across Chamorro Village - Please wear jeans!

"Youth Fest"
Sanctuary Inc.
Saturday, April 27th
10a-5p @ Chamorro Village

April is... (Cont.)

#TalkingROCKS

GCASAFV #TalkingROCKS - Throughout April



GCASAFV's campaign will focus on engaging people to start the conversation on pressing issues of today such as family violence, sexual assault, and dating violence.

Playing on the theme of "Talking ROCKS," GCASAFV will offer a limited number of these #TalkingROCKS for sponsorship. The #TalkingROCKS will be displayed at various locations throughout April, Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

GCASAFV's #TalkingROCKS campaign will promote finding and snapping a photo with the #TalkingROCKS at the display locations. Participants will be able to post photos online with the #TalkingROCKS and tag us at @GuamCoalition for a chance to win prizes.

The #TalkingROCKS will be collected at the end of the campaign and placed in a permanent home in a rock garden display. **For more info please visit our website at www.guamcoalition.org.**



Digital Corner

"Intimate Risk Assessment and the Family Court"

National Domestic Violence Fatality Review Initiative

<https://tinyurl.com/y2np96mq>

Wednesday, April 24th

6:00 am -7:00 am ChST

"Language Access Accountability: Experiences from a New York Community"

Vera Center on Victimization + Safety

<https://tinyurl.com/y4j8g3kb>

Friday, April 12, 2019

4:00 am – 5:30 am ChST

"Language Access for Law Enforcement"

Vera Center on Victimization + Safety

<https://tinyurl.com/y3o2am5f>

Tuesday, April 16

4:00 am – 5:30 am ChST

"Language Access for Advocates"
Vera Center on Victimization + Safety

<https://tinyurl.com/y2f77c24>

Wednesday, May 8, 2019

4:00 am – 5:30 am ChST

"Language Access Bank"

Provided by: Vera Center on Victimization + Safety;

<https://tinyurl.com/y4hvjvvc>

Wednesday, May 29, 2019

4:00 am – 5:30 am ChST



Member Spotlight!



Healing from sexual assault is never easy. The journey to recovery from trauma takes time, and requires both immediate and long-term services built upon the foundation of understanding that trauma takes many forms, is often overlapping and can be re-experienced in many ways.

The Healing Hearts Crisis Center (HHCC) is Guam's only Rape Crisis Center. As a division of the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center, HHCC exists with the intent to provide survivors of sexual assault with "discrete, immediate and full medical attention."

HHCC incorporates a holistic approach for the survivor of sexual assault or abuse. Regardless of when the assault occurred or the age, ethnicity, gender or disability of the survivor, HHCC offers a supportive, healing atmosphere with caring professionals to assist survivors in regaining feelings of safety, control, trust, autonomy and self-esteem. The HHCC team works together to ensure all survivors receive the services they need to begin and sustain the healing process after sexual assault or abuse. HHCC services include intake assessment and crisis intervention, forensic and multi-disciplinary team interviews, short term case management and linkage to other needed services such as individual and family therapy. HHCC also provides medical services including forensic examinations and collection of forensic evidence, as well as outreach and training to schools, service providers and the community at large.

Sexual violence can have long-term negative effects for survivors and their families; statistics state that survivors of sexual violence are 3 times more likely to suffer from depression, 6 times more likely to suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder, 13 times more likely to abuse drugs or alcohol and 4 times more likely to contemplate suicide. The fear, powerlessness and hopelessness that results from such a personal trauma can make the thought of reaching out for help feel impossible.

As difficult and painful as coping with sexual assault and abuse can be, Guam has many resources that work together to assist the most vulnerable in our community. Government, community-based and faith-based organizations work together to provide survivors a streamlined process that minimizes re-traumatization. HHCC works with members of Guam's Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) to provide a coordinated, efficient, and supportive response to victims of sexual assault. Often times navigating the system of response is a huge barrier to accessing needed services. The SART works together to ensure that no matter at what point a victim or family member enters the system, they will be provided the appropriate guidance and support to access the services they need.

The Healing Hearts Crisis Center operates Monday through Friday from 8am to 5pm. Due to the sensitive nature of the work, we prefer appointments to be made by calling 647-5351. After hours crisis services are also available through the same contact number. HHCC works with GBHWC Crisis Hotline to ensure availability of response 24/7.

"Over 75 percent of the clients we see know their perpetrators. These are not strangers touching kids and kidnapping them and raping them. These are family members and friends."

**– Maresa Aguon,
program manager and licensed
professional counselor at
Healing Hearts**

March in Review

GCASAFV@University of Guam Charter Day - March 12th

Thank you to all who visited our booth and #TalkingROCKS Launch at Charter Day! Check out our social media pages for more photos!



Guam Team in Chicago!

The Guam Team participated in the National Sexual Violence Resource Center's Embracing Change & Growth 2019 in Chicago, IL from March 12-14. Sessions included the Rethinking Advocacy Training session facilitated by Kris Bein and Valery Davis. Photo: National Organization of Asians & Pacific Islanders Ending Sexual Violence's Mira and NSVRC's Karla.



April is... (Cont.)

National Autism Awareness Month

It is important to join the global effort to raising awareness for autism, increase global understanding and acceptance of persons with autism, and understand that persons with autism can be affected by sexual violence. Follow the link to learn about how to respond to survivors with autism spectrum disorders: <https://www.nsvrc.org/sites/default/files/publications/2018-10/Survivors%20with%20Autism%20Spectrum%20DisordersFINAL508.pdf>



Visit GCASAFV's table at the Autism Outreach Fair on Saturday, April 6th at Agana Shopping Center from 10a-2pm.

National Crime Victims' Rights Week (April 7 – 13)

This year's National Crime Victims' Rights Week theme, "Honoring Our Past. Creating Hope for the Future," celebrates the strides made throughout the years and looks to the future of crime victim services that is more inclusive, accessible, and trauma-informed.

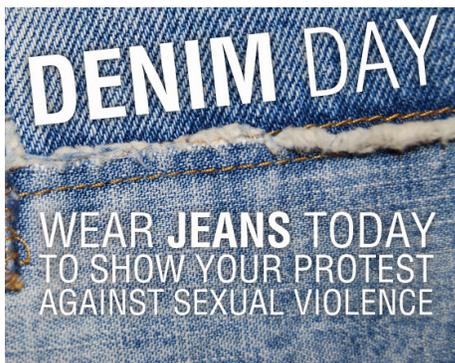
Get the resources you need to stay informed by following the link

here: https://ovc.ncjrs.gov/ncvrw2019/info_flyers/resources/eng/2019NCVRW_OnlineResources_508.pdf



Denim Day (April 24)

In 1992, the women of the Italian Parliament wore jeans in solidarity with a victim after a Supreme Court in Italy overturned a rape conviction. The justices felt that the victim must have helped her rapist by removing her jeans, implying consent. On April 24th, Peace Over Violence invites everyone to wear jeans to support rape survivors and protest against the misconceptions of sexual violence. Learn how you can get involved here: <https://www.denimdayinfo.org/>



Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITES:
GUAMCOALITION.ORG
PACIFICREGIONRESOURCES.ORG



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