

## WHERE TO GET HELP IN ARLINGTON

If you or someone you know has experienced a sexual assault, there is help. It is never too late to receive the support you deserve.

### Reporting an Assault. Available 24/7

- For law enforcement, contact Arlington County Police Department: emergency, 9-1-1 or non-emergency, 703-558-2222

### Crisis Support. Available 24/7

- For crisis support, safety planning, and/or shelter services call the Doorways for Women and Families Hotline at 703-237-0881 or visit [www.doorwaysVA.org](http://www.doorwaysVA.org)

### Medical Support. Available 24/7

- For medical support including access to a forensic exam, call the Inova Ewing Forensic Assessment and Consultation Team (FACT) at 703-776-4001 and ask to page the SANE nurse or [www.inova.org/inova-in-the-community/fact](http://www.inova.org/inova-in-the-community/fact)

### Legal System Support.

- For support or questions regarding the legal system, call the Arlington County Victim/Witness Program at 703-228-4410 or the Doorways Court Advocacy Program at 703-228-3749

### Mental Health Services.

- Doorways for Women and Families Revive Counseling Program. For more information, call the Doorways Hotline at 703-237-0881 or visit [www.doorwaysVA.org](http://www.doorwaysVA.org)
- Arlington's Behavioral Health Services. For more information, call 703-228-5150 or <https://health.arlingtonva.us>

For information and support for children, call the child abuse hotline at: 703-228-1500

## ARLINGTON'S RESPONSE

When someone in Arlington commits an act of sexual assault, it is the responsibility of the community to ensure the perpetrator(s) are held accountable and that victims and survivors are offered appropriate, timely and comprehensive services.

The Arlington Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) is a partnership of law enforcement, judicial system, medical and advocacy agencies collaborating to meet the diverse needs of victims and survivors and strengthen resources to prosecute perpetrators.

### Members of the Arlington SART include:

- Arlington Commonwealth Attorney's Office
- Arlington County Police Department
- Arlington Victim/Witness Program
- Doorways for Women and Families
- Inova Ewing Forensic Assessment and Consultation Team (FACT)
- Marymount University
- Project PEACE

To learn more about the Arlington SART or to review the SART Protocol Manual for Arlington County visit: <https://health.arlingtonva.us/project-peace>



## ARLINGTON COUNTY SEXUAL ASSAULT RESOURCES AND RESPONSE



FOR CRISIS SUPPORT, 24/7 CALL:  
703-237-0881



## WHAT IS SEXUAL ASSAULT?

**Sexual assault is any act of a sexual nature committed against someone without that person's freely given consent.**

*For specific, legal definitions visit: <https://law.lis.virginia.gov>*

**Victims and survivors of sexual assault can seek help at any time- no matter how long ago the assault took place. While there are statutes of limitations on prosecuting a sexual assault as a criminal offense, there is no time limit on seeking supportive services.**

### 3 ENTRY POINTS FOR SUPPORT\*



#### Law Enforcement

If a sexual assault is reported to police, officers will assess safety and medical needs, interview those involved and discuss support options based on when and where the assault happened.

**9-1-1**



#### Advocacy Services

24/7 crisis hotline, hospital and court accompaniment, legal system support and short-term counseling is provided for free to victims and survivors of sexual assault by community and systems-based advocates.

**703-237-0881**



#### Medical Support

It is important to consider a forensic exam. A forensic exam preserves physical evidence. Forensic Nurses collect evidence, document injuries, answer questions and discuss post-assault medical health considerations and options.

**703-776-4001**

*\*Services provided by these Arlington SART member agencies are free.*

## HOW TO SUPPORT A FRIEND

Whether it is a friend, family member, colleague or classmate, the response to a disclosure of sexual assault is simple:



**Believe Them.** Victims/survivors of sexual assault often blame themselves for the assault. Telling them, "I Believe You" can empower someone to seek the supports they need.

**Listen.** Listening to their story -without judgement or advice- validates their experience and encourages supportive healing.

**Offer Support and Resources.** Advocacy programs help navigate legal, medical and mental health systems ensuring individualized, holistic services.

### VIRGINIA SAFE PAYMENT PROGRAM

In Virginia, victims of rape and sexual assault have the right to seek forensic evidence collection at no cost and may also request financial support through victim compensation programs. Information on the Virginia SAFE Payment Program can be found at [www.Virginia.gov](http://www.Virginia.gov)