

What is CCASA?

Calgary Communities Against Sexual Abuse

(CCASA) is the primary sexual harassment, sexual abuse and sexual assault crisis, counselling and education service provider for Calgary and the surrounding areas. Our services are available to everyone including people of all colour, race, ability, sexual orientation, religion, education, socio-economic status, or gender.

Our Vision

Healthy communities free of sexual violence, including sexual abuse, sexual assault and sexual harassment.

Our Mission

To lead in the provision of specialized sexual violence services and educate communities to shift attitudes and responses to sexual violence.

CCASA offers free and confidential services, including:

- Counselling (Individual and Group)
- CCASA Support and Information Line
- Sexual Assault Response Team (24-Hour Hospital Accompaniment)
- Public Education and Training
- Police and Court Support (PACES)

Arrangements for interpreters available upon request.

CCASA Support & Information Line
9am-9pm – 7 days a week
403-237-5888

Alberta's One Line for Sexual Violence
(Phone/Text) 1-866-403-8000
TTY Line 403-508-7888
Chat www.calgarycasa.com

9am-9pm – 7 days a week

For more information on our programs and services:

Email | info@calgarycasa.com
Business | 403-237-6905

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

Thank you to our funders:



CSART Calgary Sexual Assault Response Team

Provides hospital accompaniment, support and care to individuals who have been sexually assaulted within the past 96 hours.



CSART

Calgary Sexual Assault Response Team

is a multi-disciplinary and all-female team, including specialized **Nurses, Doctors**, and a **Support Counsellor** from CCASA. **Police officers** may also be members of the team. The team provides care to individuals who have been sexually assaulted within the past 96 hours. You can choose to access one or more of CSART's services, including:

- **Doctors or Nurses** who have specialized training in sexual assault care. They will examine and treat injuries, provide 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 CCASA Support Counsellor.** They will provide you with support and information, assess your needs, inform you of your reporting options, and provide you with referrals and follow up if you choose.
- **Police officers** if you choose to report the assault. They will take an initial statement from you, answer questions regarding the investigation, and provide options if you are concerned about your safety.

Team 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.

How to Access CSART Services

The Calgary Sexual Assault Response Team is based out of the Sheldon Chumir Health Centre and the Alberta's Children Hospital 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. The team can travel to other emergency or urgent care centers when required. This service can be requested at any emergency or urgent care center by asking the triage nurse for the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART).

Reporting Options

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

- 1. Report** - You can choose to report the crime to the police immediately and have evidence collected during the medical exam.
- 2. 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.
- 3. The 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, in addition to medical and emotional care, evidence will be collected and stored for up to one year allowing you the time to choose which reporting decision is best for you.

FAQs

What is Sexual Assault?

Sexual Assault is any unwanted sexual contact or activity including kissing, touching, groping, oral penetration, digital penetration, vaginal or anal penetration under ANY circumstances. This includes any sexual acts that were coerced.

What is Consent?

- Voluntary and given freely and willingly. 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.
- Is ongoing and can be withdrawn. A person is allowed to change their decision to participate in any sexual encounter or activity at any point in time.

FACTS AND STATISTICS:

- Forty-five percent of adult Albertans have experienced some type of sexual abuse in their lifetime. (AASAS Prevalence Report, 2019).
- 61% of all people who experienced 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 people who experienced sexual abuse and sexual assault knew their offenders. (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).
- Many people believe that they may have been responsible in some way for the sexual assault that they experienced, and that they may have been able to prevent it had they done something differently. The only person who could have prevented a sexual assault from happening is the person who chose to sexually assault someone.