

RAPE CRISIS SERVICES ARE ESSENTIAL

Rape Crisis Centers (RCC)s across the country are facing funding delays and cuts. At the same time, demand for services and prevention is increasing. As a result, individuals and communities will suffer. RCCs are critical for survivor healing and safety.



National Alliance to End Sexual Violence

I will never forget the way you listened without judgement, supported without condition, and always had your doors open. You gave me dignity when it was being stripped away, and you reminded me that I had a voice worth hearing and rights worth defending. You were, and still are, part of my survival and healing story. —Survivor, Alaska RCC

DECREASE IN FUNDING

46%

report a decrease in funding for **sexual assault services**.

50%

report a decrease in funding for **sexual assault prevention**.

53%

report a **decrease in staff**.

Our staff is at a breaking point and cannot continue to manage the influx of demand at the current funding level.

—**Pennsylvania RCC**

DATA REFLECTS FINDINGS FROM THE NAESV 2025 ONLINE SURVEY OF RAPE CRISIS CENTERS.

INCREASE IN DEMAND

60%

report an increase in demand for **sexual assault services**.

44%

report an increase in demand for services for **adult survivors of child sexual abuse**.

56%

report an increase in demand for sexual assault **prevention** and **education activities**.

70%

report an increase in demand for **housing services**.

CONSEQUENCES TO RCCs AND SURVIVORS

30% of staffing reductions were **lay-offs** due to **funding cuts**.

33% report a **waiting list** for mental health counseling/therapy services.

50% report having **no mental health** counseling or therapy providers on staff.

Following a recent funding loss, our counseling team has been reduced, resulting in a waitlist for ongoing therapeutic services....demand continues to grow, yet reduced staffing limits how quickly survivors can access the long-term support they need.

—**Texas RCC**

Currently, due to limited staffing we have a counseling waiting list of over 100 people. It is taking on average 4 months for new clients to get in for counseling. Additionally, there are times we do not have a sexual assault nurse or advocate available for clients to obtain a sexual assault exam. —Florida RCC

FUNDING IS CRITICAL

for Sexual Assault Services and Prevention



National Alliance to
End Sexual Violence

In these challenging times, it is up to us to make sure these services remain available and let survivors know they don't have to face this road in solitude.—**Colorado RCC**

WHAT RAPE CRISIS CENTERS ARE SAYING



Housing is the **#1 unmet need of survivors of sexual assault**, followed by cash assistance, basic needs (such as food and clothing), and mental health care.



Many programs lack capacity for **support groups, transportation options** and **housing resources** for survivors.

I am no longer the person I was when I walked through those doors. Because of the tools I received, I am continually overcoming obstacles. My future is brighter than my past. I can now help other women see their worth. I am writing books about my experiences. I am grateful for the way you made me feel like I was the only client you had. I felt seen.

—**Survivor, Illinois RCC**

A survivor was able to receive support and advocacy during a SANE exam. Follow-up care afterwards included counseling services, court advocacy and safety planning. The survivor was also able to obtain a protection order as part of a safety plan and reestablish a support system in friends and family during their healing journey. The survivor later reported that they felt supported and empowered by the advocacy services they received from our organization.

—**Missouri RCC**

Without additional funding and staff capacity, survivors may face delays in accessing the care and safety they urgently deserve.

—**Ohio RCC**

Sometimes, the most meaningful support is not just in the services we provide, but in the humanity we offer.

—**California RCC**

Sexual assault survivors seeking out mental health services at our organizations are added to our waiting list and provided referrals to other therapy providers in the community. However, resources are limited community-wide and most face significant wait times to access mental health services.

—**North Dakota RCC**

Rape Crisis Centers need increased investment to continue their vital work—sexual violence prevention, awareness, and supporting survivors at every stage of their healing.

HAVE ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS?
Contact Terri Poore, Policy Director
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