

Did You Know?

- Sexual assault is never the victim's fault, and no one ever deserves to be sexually assaulted. Gender identity and/or sexual orientation never justifies any sexual violation.
- Every 73 seconds, an American is sexually assaulted (RAINN, 2020).
- 1 in 3 women and 1 in 6 men have experienced a sexual violation (RAINN, 2020 & 1in6.org, 2020).
- 21% of transgender college students have experienced sexual violence (National Alliance to End Sexual Violence, 2020).
- 1 in 10 LGBTQ+ survivors of intimate partner violence (IPV) have experienced sexual assault from their partner (NCAVP, 2016).
- 42% of transgender women experience sexual assault, childhood abuse and intimate partner violence (LGBT Health, 2018).
- Homeless LGBTQ+ youth are 7.4 times more likely to experience a sexual violation than heterosexual youth (Polaris Project, 2019).
- Majority of sexual assaults are committed by someone the victim knows (RAINN, 2020).

SERVING STEARNS, BENTON, SHERBURNE, AND WRIGHT COUNTIES



REACH OUT TO US

15 Riverside Dr. NE Saint Cloud
MN, 56304

24-HOUR CRISIS LINE:

(320) 251-4357

1-800-237-5090

www.CMSAC.org

CMSAC@CMSAC.org

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**SUPPORT
FOR
LGBTQ+
SURVIVORS
OF SEXUAL
ASSAULT**

CENTRAL  MINNESOTA
Sexual Assault Center

SEXUAL ASSAULT CAN HAPPEN
TO ANYONE

You Are Not Alone



BACKGROUND

Sexual assault can happen to anyone, anywhere; regardless of age, ethnicity, economic status, lifestyle, religion, culture, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

Sexual assault is sexual contact made without someone's consent. It can be terrifying, humiliating, and confusing. Childhood sexual abuse, sexual harassment, date/acquaintance sexual assault, same gender assault, and sexual exploitation/human trafficking are some examples of sexual violations.

Central MN Sexual Assault Center (CMSAC) is a 24-hour crisis intervention agency providing direct services to people affected by any form of sexual violation. The Center's purpose is to offer non-judgmental, confidential, free, direct services to victims/survivors of sexual assault, their partners, families, coworkers, and friends.

REMEMBER

- **You are not alone.**
- **It was not your fault.**
- **There is hope and support for you.**
- **No one deserves to be sexually assaulted. Your gender identity and/or sexual orientation never justifies any sexual violence against you.**
- **Take pride in who you are!**

SERVICES

- 24-Hour Crisis Phone Line
- One-to-One Support Counseling
- Support and Psycho-Educational Groups
- Safe Harbor and Human Trafficking Services
- Safety Planning
- Harassment Restraining Orders
- Orders for Protection
- Law Enforcement Advocacy
- Court Advocacy
- Hospital Advocacy
- Professional & Community Training/Education
- Referrals to Supportive Services.

ALL SERVICES ARE FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL



ABOUT LGBTQ+ SEXUAL ASSAULT

Research has found LGBTQ+ individuals experience sexual violations at similar or higher rates than individuals identifying as heterosexual (CDC, 2015).

LGBTQ+ victims/survivors often experience many feelings and barriers that prevent them from disclosing the sexual violation they've experienced. Many have the feeling they cannot be victims and should deal with their emotions and trauma on their own; due to societal stereotypes about gender and sexual identity.

COMMON FEELINGS/BARRIERS

- Challenges when navigating services which are provided in a hetero-normative context.
- Distrust regarding service providers who may be homophobic.
- Fears about "outing" oneself and the potential consequences.
- Limited safe LGBTQ+-specific or LGBTQ+-friendly resources.
- Fear of retaliation by perpetrator, their community, and/or the potential of hate crimes.
- Feeling alone or fearing others will judge or misunderstand you.