

**Advocacy
Organizations
Serving Victims and
Survivors in
Gallatin County**

The **Sexual Assault Counseling Center (SACC)** is a program of the Bozeman Help Center. SACC provides 24 hour access to counselor/advocates. These counselor/advocates will accompany someone to the hospital for medical care following a sexual assault, and to law enforcement to make a report. SACC also offers ongoing trauma recovery counseling to current and past survivors of sexual assault or sexual abuse, and information and referrals.

The **MSU VOICE Center** is a victim advocacy service for Montana State University. The VOICE Center specializes in working with survivors who are affiliated with the University, and can help in understanding campus policy and on-campus options.

HAVEN supports victims of domestic violence and their children in Gallatin County. Services include a 24-hour confidential crisis line, emergency shelter, individual counseling, support groups for women and children, legal advocacy, and community and youth prevention education.

*All services provided by The Sexual Assault Counseling Center, The MSU VOICE Center, and HAVEN are free of charge and completely confidential

The **Child Advocacy Center (CAC)** provides a safe, child friendly location where representatives from many disciplines work together to conduct interviews and make team decisions on cases of child abuse. The CAC provides forensic interviews, support and advocacy for child and family, trauma-focused therapy—on-site or by referral, and referral for medical evaluation.

Need Help?

Services are available to people of any age, gender, orientation, race, ethnicity, income level, ability, religion, and relationship status.

911 for emergencies

Sexual Assault Counseling Center

24-hour crisis line: 406-586-3333
www.bozemanhelpcenter.org

Montana State University VOICE Center

24-hour support line: 406-994-7069
www.montana.edu/voice

HAVEN

24-hour crisis line: 406-586-4111
Legal advocate: 406-582-2038
www.havenmt.org

Child Advocacy Center

Dial 211 or 406-586-3333
www.bozemanhelpcenter.org

Law Enforcement

Bozeman Police: 406-582-2000
Gallatin County Sheriff: 406-582-2100

Gallatin County Victim Services

Assistance with all aspects of pursuing a case through the criminal justice system.
406-582-2075

Help and Hope in Gallatin County



Confidential Options
for Victims and
Survivors of
Sexual Assault,
Domestic Violence,
and Stalking

Advocates Can Help

Advocates are volunteers and professionals in the community who are able to provide confidential information and support to people who are working through tough times.

Advocates work in a number of different areas, and can offer varying services depending on their training and someone's individual needs.

- Provide crisis counseling , ongoing counseling , and support groups.
- Assist with temporary and permanent orders of protection (restraining orders), and navigating and understanding the courts.
- Accompaniment to make a report to law enforcement.
- Provide or help find emergency shelter if you are escaping an abusive situation.
- Accompaniment to a medical care provider.
- Help in understanding university policy and assistance in talking to faculty (VOICE).
- Connecting with additional resources in the community.

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What Can I Do?

If you know someone who needs help:

- **Trust your gut** if you think you notice an unsafe situation. We all need to look out for each other. Intervene safely if you can, or get some help.
- **Listen** to them. You may want to jump in with advice, but they need space to talk.
- **Believe** what they're saying. Many survivors don't ask for help because they are afraid they won't be believed.
- **Respect their confidence.** If someone discloses an experience of violence to you, don't gossip about it.
- Encourage them to **seek medical care** as soon as possible. People can have a medical exam that can be used later as evidence without having to talk to the police through the FREPP program.
- Help them **plan for their safety.**
- **Get support** for yourself. It's not easy to help someone who has been or is being victimized, and you need to take care of yourself too.
- Connect with the resources listed in this brochure, and **talk to an advocate** about your questions and concerns.
- **Tell them about the resources** available in Gallatin County. You can also offer to call for them or go with them to talk to someone. You can even give them this brochure!

Law and Justice Interim Committee
September 28-30, 2015
EXHIBIT 12

Get Involved!

Even if you don't know anyone who needs help, there's still a lot you can do to make a difference!

- Take some time to **learn about the issues** and educate yourself. Understanding how victims react to violence and what they need can prepare you to support friends and family who may be survivors of violence in the future.
- Don't be afraid to **say something**, if you can do it safely. If you see violence or abuse happening, **it's your business!**
- **Donate** money or resources, or donate time as a **volunteer.**
- **Talk to friends and family** members about these issues.
- Attend **fundraisers and awareness events** in your community.