Law Enforcement Guidelines for Adult Sexual Abuse Investigations

UPDATED APRIL 2022
Johnson County Sexual Assault Response Team (JCSART)
Guidelines for Adult Sexual Abuse Investigations

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SECTION 1. ORGANIZATION INFORMATION

A. Introduction

In addressing the issue of sexual abuse in our community, the interrelated nature of our roles as prosecutors, law enforcement officers (LEO), medical providers, victim advocates, and corrections officials becomes obvious to all involved. In 2000, the Johnson County Sexual Assault Response Team (JCSART) was organized in response to a need for an integrated community response to victims of sexual assault. JCSART's goal is to meet the needs of sexual assault victims as they progress through the health care and criminal justice systems.

The following guidelines have been formulated by representatives from these various disciplines to assist law enforcement in the investigation, prosecution, and treatment of adult sexual abuse cases and have been updated to reflect development in community-level changes, laws, and resources in the past decade. In addition to helping to standardize the process, this guide is intended to help facilitate the most effective utilization of the victim services available in the community, thus reducing further trauma to the victims. Any member of SART who responds to a victim of sexual assault should provide information regarding the resources available to victims through SART. Each law enforcement agency has its individual guidelines regarding the investigative procedures involving victims; however, the basic services provided to victims should follow the SART model. All SART members are committed to the guiding principles and will strive to be non-judgmental during any interaction with the victim of the assault and will also do their utmost to avoid implying that the victim was at fault for the abuse or could have done anything to prevent it.

These guidelines pertain to all victims of sexual assaults who are adults. Of course, when a victim reporting an assault is under the age of eighteen, mandatory reporting laws may apply. However, when a victim age 14 or older is victimized by a date, an acquaintance, or a stranger (not a caretaker), you may consider using these guidelines in your investigation. Historically, 14-year-old victims have been treated as adolescents. If you are working with a 14 or 15-year-old victim, it may be helpful to refer to Chapter 709 of the Code of Iowa for clarification of additional circumstances in which sexual abuse charges might apply. For cases involving children, refer to the Guidelines on Investigating the Sexual Abuse of Children.
B. Mission Statement

The Johnson County Sexual Assault Response Team (JCSART) collaborates to ensure a coordinated multi-disciplinary response to sexual assaults in Johnson County that is effective, consistent, and culturally sensitive, with priority placed on the needs of sexual assault victims, bringing responsible persons to justice, and ensuring community safety.

C. Participating Partners

Agencies participating in JCSART include:

- Rape Victim Advocacy Program (RVAP)
- Monsoon Iowa
- Nisaa African Family Services
- Area Law Enforcement Agencies
  - Iowa City Police Department
  - University of Iowa Police Department
  - Coralville Police Department
  - North Liberty Police Department
  - Johnson County Sheriff’s Office
- Johnson County Attorney’s Office
- Medical Staff and Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) at both University of Iowa Hospital and Mercy Hospital Iowa City
- University of Iowa Title IX and Gender Equity Unit (TIXGE) in the Office of Institutional Equity (OIE)
SECTION 2. LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE GUIDELINES

A. Initial Response

The primary consideration in an initial sexual assault investigation should be the health and safety of the victim, determining the appropriate jurisdiction, the preservation of evidence, and an attempt to identify the suspect.

Due to the particularly intimate and intrusive nature of sexual assault, the reporting process may be difficult for the victim. The responding officer should recognize the significance of the victim's initial contact with law enforcement and the effect this contact will have on their trust in the criminal justice system and their willingness to go forward with a case. The tone of the first meeting with the victim may set the tone for the rest of the investigation.

The following guidelines should be used by officers during the initial response to a sexual assault:

a. Preliminary interviews should be conducted in an area that allows for the victim to maintain as much privacy as possible. If the interview is being conducted at a law enforcement agency, soft interview rooms are recommended. Whenever possible, this interview should be audio and video recorded. Make sure the victim knows they are being recorded.

b. Attend to the victim's immediate health and safety concerns, and address questions about reporting and the criminal justice process before beginning the interview.

c. Check whether interpreter services are needed, and if so, connect the victim with approved interpreter services. Ensure the victim understands interpreter services will be arranged at no cost to the victim. Whenever possible, avoid having advocates or the victim’s family/friends interpret for the interview.

d. Inform the victim of their legal right to have a confidential support person present, and assist the victim by contacting RVAP as requested at (319) 335-6000. Officers should be cognizant of the fact that victims may be hesitant to reveal details of an assault in front of someone with whom they are close, such as a parent or a spouse, and offenders are sometimes family members or close friends of the victim. Balance should be given to victims wishes for support and good investigative practices. An RVAP advocate is recommended as they provide an arbitrary support network for the victim. If RVAP or the SANE determines there is a need for culturally specific advocacy, they will contact
the appropriate agency. The officer should inform the victim that advocates have confidentiality and make sure that the victim gets a chance to meet with the advocate first without the officer present to establish the connection. Meetings between the victim and the advocate are confidential and should not be recorded.

(1) Officers should be aware that the word “advocate” has different meanings in different languages and cultures. In some cultures, advocate is synonymous with lawyer, and in others, social workers are referred to as advocates. The phrase “confidential support person” is a safe bet to ensure the victim understands the role of RVAP.

e. Responding officers should explain the reporting options available to the victim, which range from making a basic information report to beginning a criminal investigation that may result in prosecution of the offender. Officers should not pressure the victim to make any decisions regarding participation in the investigation or prosecution during the initial interview.

f. Officers should collect preferred contact information for the victim, as well as information regarding when/how the victim prefers to be contacted.

g. The responding officer should attempt to obtain a basic statement about the assault, including the date/time, location/jurisdiction, basic elements of the crime, and any suspect information that is available. The responding officer’s role is not to conduct an in-depth interview regarding the incident; however, the responding officer should not stop or discourage a victim from sharing whatever information they feel comfortable reporting during the initial response.

h. Document all information provided by the victim in a written report and use the victim’s exact words whenever possible in the report. Attempts by an officer to "clean-up" or sanitize the language used by the victim can cause negative effects in future criminal proceedings.

i. If the victim has not already done so, encourage the victim to obtain a forensic medical exam as soon as possible from a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) at either Mercy Hospital or the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics (UIHC). This exam is done at no cost to the victim. Discourage the victim from utilizing any alternative methods for evidence collection, such as an at-home sexual assault evidence collection kit.

(1) Explain to the victim that in addition to assessment for forensic evidence, if desired, the exam includes treatment of injuries and sexually transmitted
infections (STI), STI prophylaxis medications, pregnancy prevention medications, and mental health assistance.

(2) Forensic medical exams are best done as soon as possible up to 120 hours after an assault occurs. The sooner they are performed the more likely they are to generate evidence. Other circumstances may indicate the need for a forensic medical exam if greater than 120 hrs. If there are additional questions; call RVAP and ask to speak with the SANE on call.

(3) If the victim suspects the sexual assault was drug- or alcohol-facilitated, or that the voluntary consumption of drugs or alcohol was a factor in the assault, a urine sample should be obtained as soon as possible. Ideally, the first urine void after the assault will be preserved; however, urine for a drug screening can be obtained up to 120 hours after exposure.

(4) Urine will be collected as part of the sexual assault exam when appropriate, but in cases where the victim needs to urinate before the exam can be completed, the officer should arrange to collect the urine sample by providing the victim with a urine collection kit from the police department cache in which they can provide a sample.

(5) Urine samples must be refrigerated or frozen as soon as possible after collection to maximize the potential ability to identify harmful substances.

(6) Assist with or arrange for transportation to and from the exam as needed. Inform the victim of the potential loss of evidence through showering, drinking, smoking, changing clothes, or going to the bathroom before the sexual assault exam is completed. Even if the victim has done any of the preceding activities, an exam can still provide crucial evidence.

(7) Clothing worn at the time of the assault, including underwear, should be seized as evidence whenever possible. The responding officer should assist the victim with making arrangements to obtain a change of clothes if practicable, but the hospital does have extra clothing available as needed.

j. When applicable, the initial responding officer should also photograph and collect bedding or any other physical evidence from the crime scene. Photographs/video should be taken of the crime scene and any visible injuries to the victim, if not taken by the SANE>
k. Due to the potential for digital evidence to be lost or overwritten, when applicable, video surveillance footage, traffic camera footage, or other digital evidence that may be of value in the investigation should be gathered at the time of the initial report. This should be done regardless of whether the victim expresses an interest in pursuing a criminal investigation at the time of the initial report.

l. If digital evidence is a factor in the case, such as cell phone or social media data, consult with your supervisor about the need to seize phones, send preservation letters to the applicable companies to ensure information is retained, even if the victim is uncertain whether or not they want to pursue a criminal investigation at the time of the initial report.

m. Officers should consider the possibility/need for an immediate interview of the suspect. Depending on the case, it may be beneficial to have a suspect forensic exam completed in order to obtain evidence that may otherwise be lost. Before arranging for a suspect exam evaluate the need for search warrants with your supervisor and take appropriate steps to obtain a warrant if needed. Suspicious forensic exams do not need to be conducted at the hospital and may be completed at the corresponding law enforcement agency either by a SANE or by an officer, depending on the type and depth of exam needed. If a suspect forensic exam is requested by law enforcement and completed by a SANE, a charge will be assessed to the law enforcement agency.

n. Other information the initial responding officer should attempt to collect includes information on the first person the victim disclosed to, people who may have been with the victim at or around the time of the assault, and any eyewitnesses to any part of the assault or the interaction between the victim and the offender. If the victim is able to provide contact information for any of these people, the officer should obtain it while taking the initial report.

o. Officers should discuss and create a plan for any safety concerns expressed by the victim, including but not limited to stalking or harassment by the perpetrator, abuse from a partner who may react violently to news of the assault, retribution by friends of the attacker, and punitive response from a parent. Ensure the victim has a safe place to go to once the initial contact with law enforcement is complete. If a civil no-contact order is requested and applicable to the situation, refer the victim to the Clerk of Court.

p. Notification to the Department of Human Services (DHS) shall be made by the officer when the reported incident involves a victim under the age of eighteen (18) and the alleged suspect is a person responsible for the care of the child. The
law requires officers to report suspected child abuse to DHS orally within 24 hours of becoming aware of the situation by calling 1-800-362-2178. Officers shall notify the victim DHS has been contacted, and will provide DHS with a written incident report within 48 hours of making the oral report.

q. Victims shall be provided with a handout regarding available community resources.

r. Every effort should be made to exclude officer opinion in the written report and to avoid asking leading questions. This can compromise the integrity of the entire report and the credibility of the victim and officer. It is normal for a victim to not know or remember complete details; do not try to fill in the gaps for them.

s. A thorough written report should be completed by the initial responding officer as soon as practicable. The written report should include all information and statements obtained during the initial contact with the victim, documentation of any evidence collected or preserved, any available suspect information, and notes regarding any evidence or information that needs more follow-up.

B. Investigative Follow-Up

As soon as is practicable, the case should be assigned to an officer or investigator for follow-up. The assigned investigator should attempt to make contact with the victim using their preferred contact information as soon as possible to introduce themselves, review the available reporting options, and answer any questions the victim may have. The investigator should also review the safety plan and address any new safety concerns expressed by the victim.

a. If the victim is not ready to proceed with beginning a criminal investigation at the time of contact by the investigator, the following guidelines should be considered:

(1) Explain to the victim they can change their mind at any time and decide to move forward with the investigation. Any information and evidence that has already been collected will be maintained at the police department.

(2) Remind the victim of the potential for digital evidence such as video surveillance footage, traffic camera footage, social media data, cell phone data, etc. to be lost or overwritten if not collected immediately. Even if they do not wish to move forward with a report at this time, notify the victim that if there is any such information available, it would be in their best interest to advise the investigator of it so it can be collected and maintained in the event they change their mind regarding the investigation at some point in the future.
(3) The investigator should provide the victim with their contact information and ensure they have received information regarding available community resources. Remind the victim that even if they do not wish to pursue a criminal investigation, many of these resources are still available to them.

(4) If a SANE kit was collected, the investigator should contact the hospital that completed the exam to see if a SANE report was authorized for release by the victim. If the report is available and has been authorized for release, it should be collected and held as evidence in the case file.

b. If the victim is ready to begin a criminal investigation, arrangements should be made to conduct a follow-up interview with the victim and a time and location of their choosing. The following guidelines should be considered for the follow-up interview:

(1) The victim should be made aware of their right to have a victim advocate and/or support person present during the follow-up interview. If the victim requests an advocate, the investigator should assist as needed with contacting and making arrangements for the advocate to be present.

(2) An “advocate” is defined by Iowa Code 915 as free and confidential support person, who is not family or friend, but is familiar with investigation and court processes; can explain options and provide support before report is ever made, at each step of the case’s progression (forensic medical exams, investigation interviews, charging discussions, depositions, trials, pleas, sentencing), and after case “ends;” can help victims with resources and referrals that aid in aftermath of crime (VINE, Crime Victim Compensation, University processes and resources, civil protective orders, counseling/therapy, support groups); also available for victim’s friends, family, coworkers, etc.

(3) Check with the victim regarding their language preference for the interview, and if interpreter services are needed, the investigator should make arrangements for a qualified in-person or phone interpreter to be available for the interview at no cost to the victim.

(4) If the interview is to be held at the police department, whenever possible, a soft interview room should be used.

(5) During the interview, the investigator should use a trauma-informed interview process that allows the victim to share a free narrative of the incident in whatever order and manner they are able to provide. Investigators should
limit interruptions during the free narrative and should wait until the victim has shared what they are able to before circling back to ask clarifying questions. At the conclusion of the interview, the investigator should review the information and timeline they have received from the victim to check it for accuracy. This helps eliminate errors or misunderstandings, and may help the victim recall additional information they didn’t think of during the free narrative.

(6) Other evidence material to a sexual abuse investigation may include interviews with the first person the victim disclosed to, people who may have been with the victim at or around the time of the assault, and eyewitnesses to any part of the assault or the interaction between the victim and the offender. If the victim is able to provide contact information for any of these people, the investigator should follow-up with these subjects.

(7) Review the evidence collected with the victim and ensure there is nothing additional that needs to be gathered that was not collected during the initial report.

(8) Updated photographs of any visible injuries should be completed using a scale for reference.

(9) Make sure that there are photographs or video of the crime scene. You may need to obtain a search warrant to take photos or video.

(10) Upon completion of the interview, the investigator should provide an overview to the victim of what the next steps will be in the investigation and provide them with a realistic time frame for follow-up. Investigators will remain available to victims for updates and to answer questions.

(11) The investigator should provide the victim with their contact information and ensure they have received information regarding available community resources.

(12) After the initial follow-up interview, the investigator should maintain contact with the victim to keep them apprised of the status of the case and provide them with any available updates.

(13) If a SANE kit was collected, the investigator should contact the hospital that completed the exam to see if a SANE report was authorized for release by the victim. If the report and/or medical records from the visit are available
and have been authorized for release, they should be collected and added to the case file.

C. Other Investigative Considerations

**Canvass:** Investigators are encouraged to canvass the original crime scene for additional witnesses, evidence and/or video cameras. Occasionally, field officers fail to locate and collect pertinent evidence.

**Video evidence:** Investigators should view all video evidence and ensure it has been properly collected and booked into evidence. If additional video evidence has been identified and needs to be collected, investigators will ensure that the evidence is recovered, reviewed, and booked into evidence.

**Physical evidence:** Investigators will review all evidence collected in cases. All pertinent physical and biological evidence will be taken to the Crime Laboratory without delay for forensic examination.

**Records checks and databases:** A criminal history check and NCIC check of the sex offender registry should be conducted on every suspect.

**Photographic lineups:** Photographic lineups will be presented in accordance with the department policy. Whenever possible, photographic lineups should be presented by an officer who doesn’t have working knowledge of the case and should be recorded.

**Cell phone evidence:** All phones collected as evidence need to be searched for relevant information, pursuant to department policy. Once the consent or a search warrant is obtained, the cell phone should be run through a forensic tool for data and images.

**Social media:** Preservation letters and subsequent search warrants should be sent to applicable social media sites to obtain data and records.

**Vehicle evidence:** If the assault occurred inside a vehicle, vehicles should be processed to collect evidence suitable for forensic examination.

**Drug-Facilitated Sexual Assault (DFSA) investigations:** Whenever available, information regarding the symptoms experienced by a victim (ie: unconsciousness, amnesia), the length of time symptoms were present, the number and type of drinks voluntarily consumed, if any, and/or any drugs that were voluntarily used (recreational, prescription, or over the counter) should be documented and shared with the Crime Laboratory during the course of the investigation.
D. Criminal Charges & Prosecution

When a victim wishes to proceed with investigation and prosecution of an assault, every effort should be made to complete the investigation and charging process in a timely manner. Contact the Johnson County Attorney’s Office (JCAO) for assistance when deciding to charge or not charge a suspect.

Regardless of the outcome of the charging decision, the victim is entitled to meet in person with the investigating officer, the County Attorney or the Assistant County Attorney making the decision about the case. If a decision is made not to file a charge, the victim is entitled to a complete explanation of the decision.

Preferred contact information should be obtained and updated for the victim. If a decision is made to proceed with prosecution, the victim is entitled to continuing, accurate, and timely information about the progress of the case. This information should be provided to the victim by either the victim-witness coordinator or the prosecutor.

Orders of No Contact should be automatically ordered in Sexual Assault in the First, Second or Third Degree. No Contact Orders (NCOs) are kept on file at the JECC (Joint Emergency Communications Center) office similar to domestic abuse cases. These orders have the "mandatory take into custody" protection for violations. For other offenses under Chapter 709, the arresting officer should leave a note on the victim information sheet asking the judge to impose an NCO at the initial appearance. If a violation occurs, the investigating officer will have to check with the Clerk of Court to verify the existence of the order and file a report on the violation in order for a "show cause" hearing to be set. Check with the County Attorney's Office if you have any questions about this.

Charges for Sexual Abuse in the 1st, 2nd, and/or 3rd Degree of an adult victim must be brought within ten (10) years from the date of the crime or, if the defendant is identified through the use of a DNA profile, within three years from the date the defendant’s legal name is known and has been determined to be the source of the DNA, whichever is longer. For victims under age 18 at the time of the incident, there is no statute of limitations for charges of Sexual Abuse in the 1st, 2nd, and/or 3rd Degree. Other felony or misdemeanor sex crimes have different statutes of limitations. Consult with JCAO as needed.

The victim's name should not be placed on the complaint or any other public documents in order to protect their identity. The names of adult victims DO appear in
Inform the victim of the Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) system and encourage them to sign up immediately. The system will notify the victim when the perpetrator is released from jail. The advocate can help the victim register with VINE.

Let the victim and witnesses know by name and department who may be contacting them next. Inform them that they are not required to talk to anyone outside the police department or county attorney's office unless they are subpoenaed for a deposition or trial. The defendant's family or friends or the defense attorney might try to contact the victim, but the victim does not have to speak with them unless there is a subpoena. Encourage the victim to ask for identification if someone contacts them. Let the victim and witnesses know that it is a crime for anyone to threaten or harass a victim or witness.

SECTION 3. COLLABORATION WITH ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATIONS

The purpose of an administrative investigation is to gather relevant evidence to determine if a policy or ethical code of conduct was violated, determine if the policy violation warrants disciplinary action, and decide what disciplinary action is most appropriate. Administrative investigation procedures are guided by legal requirements and organizational policies.

A. Administrative Investigation Procedure and Standard of Proof

Federal regulations require that educational institutions perform timely administrative investigations when a suspect and/or a victim of a sexual offense is a student or employee. Affected institutions include K-12 schools, colleges, and universities. The filing of criminal charges does not postpone the educational institution’s obligation to interview witnesses and take administrative action. Some noneducational organizations may also be legally obligated or mandated by internal policies to conduct administrative investigations concurrently with a police investigation.

Law enforcement agencies conducting criminal investigations may have relevant evidence that could assist in an administrative investigation especially in the case of acquiring forensic evidence. Conversely, non police administrators may have forensic or other evidence in their possession that could aid law enforcement authorities in the event the victim files a police complaint. Sharing evidence between
law enforcement and non-police agencies is important because it can aid both entities with accomplishing their respective goals and responsibilities. Criminal investigations or reports are not determinative of whether misconduct, for purposes of a policy violation, has occurred because the standards for finding a violation of criminal law are different from the standards for finding a violation of policy. For example, inappropriate conduct reported by a victim may constitute an institutional policy violation even if law enforcement agencies lack sufficient evidence of a crime and hence decline to prosecute. In such cases, the victim may not initially understand the differing results of the separate investigations, and therefore, it is even more critical to ensure their linkage with a victim advocate. The advocate can assist the victim with navigating both sets of procedures and outcomes.

Misconduct may constitute both a violation of institutional policy and the law, and therefore, many institutions actively encourage their employees and other constituents to promptly report misconduct to local law enforcement agencies. The standard of proof used in many administrative investigations is the preponderance of the evidence standard. The standard is met if the allegation is more likely to be true than not true. Effectively, the standard is satisfied if there is greater than 50 percent chance that misconduct occurred.

B. Federal Requirements and Obligations

Federal education regulations recognize the importance of prioritizing the police investigation when the suspect or victim is a student or employee of the school. When a victim files a police complaint, school administrators have discretion to delay temporarily the school's investigation while police gather evidence. The maximum administrative delay is relatively short; however, as the timeliness expectation still applies. To coordinate a requested delay, the police investigator should contact the Title IX Coordinator or the school’s designated administrator. Federal mandate typically allows school administrators to delay for up to 10 days while law enforcement officers collect evidence as part of the police investigation. Educational institutions cannot wait for the criminal investigation or court proceedings to conclude before commencing its own investigation. School administrators may facilitate supportive measures to protect the victim and the school community while the police investigation is proceeding.

Some educational institutions are required in certain situations to notify the school community when a sexual, dating/domestic violence, or stalking
criminal offense is reported to law enforcement authorities. Ordinarily, notifications are issued to the campus population a short time following receipt of the report. Failure to issue a timely notification may result in a heavy monetary fine imposed on the educational institution or the loss of all federal funding. Contact the Clery Compliance Officer or the Title IX Coordinator for additional information and procedures.

C. Supportive Measures for Victims & the Accused

Federal regulations and/or organizational policies may require that employers and/or K-12 schools, colleges, and universities accommodate work assignments, housing location, and/or academic assignments to address safety concerns and to remedy any unfair impact when they can reasonably do so. Supportive measures are non-disciplinary, nonpunitive, individualized services offered as appropriate, as reasonably available, and without fee or charge to the parties to restore or preserve access to the education program, activity, or workplace, including measures designed to protect the safety of all parties or the educational environment, and/or deter sexual harassment, sexual misconduct, and/or related retaliation. A victim is not required to make a complaint to be eligible for supportive measures.

D. Sharing Information or Evidence with Administrative Investigators

Active collaboration with administrative investigations is promoted. It is advisable that before sharing information with an organization or school conducting an administrative investigation that the law enforcement agency first consult with the victim as law require and the Johnson County Attorney's Office to ensure support for case collaboration. Consult with the County Attorney's Office to obtain the needed records from the administrative proceedings.

SECTION 4. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

A. Crime Victim Rights

The rights of victims of crime include:

- The right to have an advocate present at court hearings, depositions or any legal or medical procedure
- The right to apply for Crime Victim Compensation
- The right to notice of the status of an investigation
- The right to register to be notified of the offender's release from jail
- The right to adequate notice of any required court appearance
- The right to notice of a plea agreement
- The right to submit an oral or written victim impact statement at the offender's sentencing hearing
- The right to receive restitution from the offender for losses incurred as a result of the crime
- The right to register with the Department of Corrections and the Board of Parole to be notified of the offender's status
- The right to testify at the offender's parole hearings

B. Resources

**Hospitals**
University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics
Emergency Department (319) 356-2233

Mercy Hospital Iowa City
Emergency Department (319) 339-3600

Unity Point (Cedar Rapids)
(319) 369-7211

Mercy Medical Center (Cedar Rapids)
(319) 398-6041

Mercy Medical Center (Hiawatha)
319-832-3950

**Law Enforcement**
Iowa City Police Department
(319) 356-5275

University of Iowa Police Department
(319) 335-5022

Coralville Police Department
(319) 248-1800
North Liberty Police Department  
(319) 626-5724

Johnson County Sheriff’s Office  
(319) 356-6020

**Rape Victim Advocacy Program (RVAP)**
108 River St. Iowa City  
24-hour Sexual Abuse Crisis Line: (319) 335-6000 or 800-228-1625  
Hours: 9-5 M-F  
Services: Advocacy, counseling, information and referral; 24-hour response to hospitals & law enforcement; advocacy; free and confidential. Community education and prevention.

**Domestic Violence Intervention Program (DVIP)**
24-Hour Crisis Line: (319) 351-1043 or 1-800-373-1043  
Shelter, counseling, advocacy, information, assistance with filing temporary domestic abuse protection orders and other legal advocacy, community education, free and confidential.

**United Action for Youth**
Eastdale Plaza, 1700 S 1st Ave, Iowa City  
319-338-7518 / M-F 9AM-7PM; Sat 12pm-5pm  
24-Hour Crisis Line: (319) 338-7518  
Services: Crisis intervention; counseling/mediation services for teenage youth and non-offending parents; transitional living program; young parent program, health education.

**Victim-Witness Assistance Program**
Johnson County Attorney’s Office, (319) 339-6100 / Hours: 8-5 M-F  
Services: Information about status of the criminal case, crime victim rights, & prosecution process

**Unity Point Child Protection Center (CPC) Hiawatha Children’s Campus**
1095 N. Center Point Rd, Cedar Rapids  
Routine Phone: 319-369-7908 / Hours: 8:00a - 4:30p M-F  
24-Hour Line: 319-369-7211 / Ask for nursing supervisor  
Services: Works with DHS and law enforcement on investigations of child abuse

**Department of Human Services (DHS)**
855 S. Dubuque St, Iowa City  
24-Hour Statewide Abuse Hotline: 1-800 362-2178  
Routine Phone: (319) 356-6050 / Hours: 8:00a - 4:30p M-F
Services: Investigation and coordination with law enforcement of child and dependent adult abuse. **Reports of abuse should be called in to the reporting line immediately.**

**L.U.N.A.**
Physical office locations in DSM & Marshalltown
24-Hour Crisis Line (Eng & Spanish): 515-271-5060
Routine Phone: (515) 271-5060 / 8:30-5 M-F
   - Services: **Geared toward Latinx survivors of DA/SA, but available for everyone.** Educational counseling, safety planning, support groups, advocacy, referrals

**University of Iowa Title IX and Gender Equity Unit (TIXGE) in the Office of Institutional Equity (OIE)**
455 Van Allen Hall, 30 North Dubuque St, Iowa City
(319) 335-6200 / Hours: 9-5 M-F
   - Services: Coordinates the university's response to reports of sexual harassment and sexual misconduct, including dating/domestic violence, and stalking

**Abbe Center for Community Mental Health (UnityPoint Health)**
1039 Arthur St, Iowa City
24-Hour Crisis Line: 319-398-3562
Routine Phone: (319) 319-338-7884 / Hours: M-F Hours vary
   - Services: Individual, family and group therapy; psychiatric evaluations and medication management.

**RELAY Iowa**
1-800-735-2942 TTY
1-800-735-2943 VOICE
   - Services: 24-hour full telephone service to people who are deaf or hard of hearing.

**Prelude Behavioral Services**
430 Southgate Ave, Iowa City
24-hour Phone: (319) 351-4357
Routine Phone: (319) 351-4357 / Hours vary
   - Services: Adult and youth services -- detoxification, outpatient evaluation, treatment for substance abuse; transitional housing; prevention services; OWI course. Adult only --residential treatment. Synchrony-Mental Health Services.

**Women’s Resource & Action Center**
230 N Clinton St Iowa City
319-335-1486 / Hours vary
   - Services: Feminist organization providing counseling, violence prevention training, leadership and diversity opportunities.

**Crime Victim Assistance Division**
1-800-373-5044
Services: Financial assistance for victims of violent crime and their families

Monsoon Asians and Pacific Islanders in Solidarity
Eastdale Plaza, 1700 S 1st Ave, Iowa City
(319) 538-5207 / Hours vary
Services: Multilingual advocates; relief, referrals and resources; individual counseling; community outreach and education; legal advocacy; community outreach and education; free and confidential.

Nisaa African Family Services
Eastdale Plaza, 1700 S 1st Ave, Iowa City
(319) 338-7617 / Hours vary
Services: Crisis advocacy, safety planning, individual and group counseling, immigration assistance, multilingual advocates, legal advocacy. Free and confidential.

Waypoint Services
318 5th St SE, Cedar Rapids
Crisis Line: 1-800-208-0389
Office: (319) 365-1458
Services: Domestic violence individual counseling, support groups, advocacy, information and referral, housing services, Survivors of Homicide (and other violent crimes) Program. Childcare program. Free and confidential.

VINE Registration Information
888-742-8463 (888-7-IAVINE)
www.vinelink.com
Services: Free, secure, and confidential access to custody status. Register for notifications and find service providers.