



# The Sexual Trauma & Abuse Care Center

## Rural and Underserved Advocate Position Description

**Basic Purpose and Organization:** The Rural and Underserved Advocate position will provide survivor-centered services that respond to the immediate emotional and physical needs of victims of sexual trauma and abuse, and assist victims with managing practical problems created by the victimization. In addition, the position is responsible for coordination of services and expertise of rural and underserved populations in regards sexual trauma and abuse. The position will support community collaborations and oversee other work assignments as the Executive Director determines.

### **Primary Responsibilities:**

#### **DIRECT SERVICE**

1. Provide services to residents of Douglas, Jefferson and Franklin Counties which include responding to the immediate emotional and physical needs of victims and restoring the victim's sense of security.  
**Examples:** Crisis intervention; accompaniment to hospitals for medical examinations; hotline and in-person supportive counseling; safety planning; practical problem-solving; assisting in filing protection orders; law enforcement interview accompaniment; providing information and referrals; assistance with emergency shelter; etc.
2. Responsible for understanding and demonstrating a trauma-informed and survivor-centered view of victims and understanding that their process of healing and facilitating communication with and among service providers and systems can be corrective and restorative.  
**Examples:** Support and navigate with victim through various service providers, creditors, or employers; assisting in filing for compensation benefits; and helping to apply for public assistance; etc.
3. Participate in the after-hours on-call rotation for crisis calls. 1-2 weeks a month the Rural and Underserved Advocate will be on-call to act as staff backup and be available for crisis calls as well as respond within 30-minutes to Lawrence Memorial Hospital for medical examination accompaniment if necessary.

#### **RURAL & UNDERSERVED OUTREACH**

1. Responsible for community awareness and outreach to residents of Franklin, Jefferson and rural Douglas counties as well as defined underserved populations to increase awareness of services and response to sexual assault.  
**Examples:** Provide appropriate information and resources along with opportunities for trainings to agencies and entities that support rural, people with disabilities, people of color, senior/elderly and/or language diversity individuals and communities.
2. Responsible for establishing and maintaining relationship with other community organizations in rural and underserved areas.  
**Examples:** Develop and maintain contact with area law enforcement, mental health, social services, hospitals and court services to establish protocol for a coordinated response to adult and child victims of sexual violence as well as attend meetings related to mission in service area.

## **Qualifications, Skills and Knowledge Needed:**

- Relevant and significant work and volunteer experience AND/OR bachelor or Master's degree, preferably in the areas of social welfare, women's studies, psychology, child development or related field.
- Experience working with diverse populations. Ability to communicate effectively with various ages and populations (i.e. community members, volunteers, students).
- Experience in crisis response and case management required. Experience and/or knowledge of sexual violence issues preferred.
- Spanish language fluency preferred.
- Must have vehicle, valid driver's license and insurance coverage.
- Ability to adjust to changing environments and ability to be flexible in working within those systems related to sexual violence.
- Ability to work independently while maintaining accountability for all work assigned, being prompt with all appointments and meeting all deadlines in a timely manner.

## **Additional Details:**

- Full-time (minimum of 40 hours/week)
- \$35,200 / yearly
- The Care Center is committed to making sure our agency is diverse and representative of the community. We are an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.

Apply with resume and cover letter by 10/8/17 to [chrissy@STACareCenter.org](mailto:chrissy@STACareCenter.org)

Or The Sexual Trauma and Abuse Care Center, Attn: Chrissy Heikkila, 708 W. 9th St. #105, Lawrence, KS 66044