



CENTRAL ALBERTA SEXUAL ASSAULT  
SUPPORT CENTRE

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# CASASC

## **SCREENING BOOKLET**

FOR

**24-Hour Sexual Assault Line Volunteers**

**&**

**Sexual Assault Response Team Members**

In this screening booklet you will find out what you can anticipate as well as our expectations of you, to help you decide if this is the best position for you.

Updated: April 2016

**Note:** All information will be held in the strictest confidence.

Please print as clearly as possible.

## **WELCOME!**

We are delighted that you are considering bringing your skills and talents to our 24 - 7 Sexual Assault Crisis Line &/ or as a SART member. The following is an outline of our Sexual Assault Crisis Line volunteer / SART work, our expectations, as well as a “personal insight guide” that may assist you in deciding if this is the right position for you.

### **Training Times:**

The training program for volunteers / SART members consists of 12 -15 hours of classroom learning presented by CASASC staff.

### **Attendance:**

If any absences occur without reasonable cause, the participant will be deemed to have missed too much pertinent information to proceed as a 24 - 7 Sexual Assault Crisis Line Volunteer &/ or as a SART member.

### **Elements of Training:**

The various subjects covered in training include, but are not limited to: communication skills, sexual assault, survivors and offenders, domestic violence, addictions, STI's, HIV and AIDS, grief, mental illness and suicide awareness. Ample opportunity is provided for role-playing and demonstrations. Demonstrations are given by staff members, presenters, or long time volunteers and deal with various situations that can occur on the line or during SART callouts. We provide you with complete and comprehensive training manuals as well as resource referral material.

Updated: April 2016

## **What We Do On The Line or as a SART member:**

Our main function is to provide support, information, and referral. Either on the line or responding to a Hospital call, we invest the majority of our time involved in “non-judgemental listening”. We listen to our callers with a mind-set of encouragement, understanding, and uncritical acceptance. When needed, we offer the caller one or more referrals to agencies listed in our Resource Manual.

## **Shifts:**

As a Sexual Assault Crisis Line Volunteer, our expectation is that, upon successful completion of training, you commit to a minimum of three 8-hour shifts per month for a period of 1 year. Day (8 AM - 4 PM), evening (4 PM - midnight), or midnight (midnight – 8 AM) shifts are available. This may change from month to month. One month you may have more shifts, and the next you may have less, depending on the availability of other volunteers. You are not expected to stay awake during the night. However, you are expected to have access to a private location to answer all calls and have your materials close by. Our answering service will patch calls through to your phone.



As a SART Member our expectation is that, upon successful completion of training, you commit to a minimum of one weekend / month (may be less depending upon number of active SART members) plus 2-3 long weekends / year and 1 night (4PM – 8 AM) / week or 2 day shifts / week (8am – 4pm) / week. One month you may have more shifts, and the next you may have less, depending on the availability of other SART members. You are not expected to stay awake during the night. However, you are expected to have access to your phone and are free to go directly to the hospital when called. Our answering service will patch calls through to your phone.

## Personal and Historical Issues

Personal issues that are unresolved, may surface during training and/or on 'the line' or on SART callouts. Sometimes we believe that we have 'dealt with' an issue when, in fact, we may have simply ignored it or rationalized it away. Other times, we have put time and effort into working through our issues, but are aware that we are still affected occasionally.

We ask prospective individuals to honestly examine their backgrounds and, if an unresolved issue exists, to discuss it (in utmost confidence) prior to training.

**Such issues will NOT be used as a bias for whether or not you will be accepted into training.**



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Circle the number which you honestly feel best describes your comfort level in discussing the following subject areas:

	High			Low	
Sexual Assault	5	4	3	2	1
Child Sexual Abuse	5	4	3	2	1
Sexual Development (puberty, menstruation, etc.)	5	4	3	2	1
Sexually Transmitted Infections	5	4	3	2	1
Varying Sexual Preferences	5	4	3	2	1
Family Violence	5	4	3	2	1
Marital Problems, Divorce, Separation	5	4	3	2	1
Offenders	5	4	3	2	1
Suicide	5	4	3	2	1
Loneliness, Loss, Bereavement	5	4	3	2	1
Mental Health Issues	5	4	3	2	1
Physical Health Issues	5	4	3	2	1
Addictions	5	4	3	2	1

Which areas are you MOST comfortable discussing? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Which areas are you LEAST comfortable discussing? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any belief systems that you feel may influence your service to victims (in a positive or negative way)? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

To offenders? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Updated: April 2016