

The Fairfax County Victim Assistance Network can help, if:

- You have been sexually assaulted and don't know what to do
- You were assaulted some time ago but are currently having difficulty because of the past trauma
- A member of your family or friend—man, woman or child—has been sexually assaulted or abused and you need to talk to someone about how to help the person and how to deal with your own feelings about the incident
- You are in a relationship where you are being physically or emotionally abused
- You have ended an abusive relationship and are being harassed
- You have been separated from a partner who abused you, and you need help making the transition.

How you can help:

- Become a volunteer counselor. If you are interested in being trained to participate in the 24-hour telephone counseling services, call 703-360-7273 for more information.
- Sponsor a program. VAN is attempting to reach as many of Fairfax County/Falls Church citizens as possible with educational presentations on preventing sexual assault and domestic violence. If you belong to a group or work for an agency or business that might be interested in such a program, call 703-360-7273
- Add your voice to the Friends of VAN. If you want to join, call 703-836-2561



**Fairfax County
Victim Assistance Network**
for victims of
Domestic Abuse and Sexual Assault
24-Hour Hotline
703-360-7273
TTY-703-799-8253

A network of services for victims of **sexual assault and domestic violence**

and programs aimed
at the prevention of
this violence in
Fairfax County,
Cities of Fairfax
and Falls Church

A large, stylized house shape formed by thick black lines, containing the text "Victim Assistance Network".

**Victim
Assistance
Network**

The Fairfax County Victim Assistance Network provides counseling and advocacy services for victims of sexual assault and domestic violence. It serves victims of all ages and their families. VAN also works to prevent such violence through educational programs for community groups, schools, public and private service organizations, and the general public.

VAN is a program of the Fairfax/Falls Church Community Services Board and serves residents of Fairfax County, Cities of Fairfax and Falls Church.

The Network is also supported by an independent group incorporated as the Friends of the Victim Assistance Network. Members of the Friends are citizens and representatives of community agencies who are concerned about preventing sexual assault and domestic abuse and about improving services to victims.

VAN's service providers are sensitive to issues of age, gender, ethnic background, race, disability and sexual orientation.

**Call 703-360-7273
For 24-Hour Emergency Assistance
And Telephone Counseling.**

VAN also provides:

- Information** on the medical, legal and psychological aspects of sexual assault and domestic violence.
- Escort and Advocacy** for clients who need assistance in securing safe shelter or medical treatment, or in following through with prosecution or other legal matters.
- Counseling** through on-going telephone contact and support groups at convenient locations around the county. Limited individual counseling is available for sexual assault victims.
- Third-party Reporting** when a victim of sexual assault does not wish to report an attack to the police. VAN's anonymous report will not result directly in an arrest, but will help the police compile information on patterns of rape and suspected assailants.
- Linking** with any other services a client may need. These might include social services; job counseling and training; legal assistance; and alcohol, drug abuse or mental health treatment.
- Consultation and Training** for professionals who may deal with victims and their families in the course of their work.
- Education** for community groups, schools, public and private service organizations and the general public. Presentations, including films, are tailored to the ages and interests of each audience.