
Governor Terry McAuliffe's Task Force on Combating Campus Sexual Violence
Chair Attorney General Mark Herring

Response Subcommittee

Submitted by: Judy Castele

Recommendation Summary: *Explain the legal, program and/or policy change(s) proposed.*

Institutions should enter into formal agreements with community law enforcement agencies and Sexual Assault Crisis Centers, at a minimum, to ensure seamless access to coordinated services for victims of sexual violence. The agreement should articulate the 24/7 availability of the community-based Sexual Assault Crisis Center to provide confidential crisis advocacy response for victims. A sample MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) can be found at www.NotAlone.gov. Sexual Assault Crisis Centers should be adequately funded to provide this response.

Need: *Explain the problem or issue addressed by this recommendation, providing background information as necessary. Describe the anticipated results / objectives that this recommendation aims to accomplish.*

Students who want to report an incident of sexual violence need access to resources on and off campus. Sexual Assault Crisis Centers provide a 24-hour response for support and advocacy with staff and volunteers trained in trauma-focused services.

Anticipated Challenges to Implementation of Recommendation: *Explain counter-arguments to the recommendation. What are some of the obstacles in implementing the recommendation?*

Not all communities in the Commonwealth have Sexual Assault Crisis Centers. In addition, funding for the provision of 24/7 services to institutions needs to be identified.

Implementation: *Includes legislative needs, program ideas or needs, strategies, etc. What groups are likely to support this recommendation and why?*

The Virginia Sexual and Domestic Violence Action Alliance and its member agencies support this recommendation.

Fiscal Impact: *Does this proposal require financial or personnel resources? Will it generate revenue? Will a Budget Amendment be necessary?*

A budget amendment would not be needed to develop MOUs between institutions and Sexual Assault Crisis Centers. However, Centers should be compensated for the provision of services and funding sources would need to be identified.