

A user-friendly GUIDE TO

Sexual Assault

FOR FAMILIES in Macomb County



About This Book

This *Small Book* is designed to assist families in locating free or low-cost community services in Macomb County and is designed to be user-friendly.

The book first lists a "SITUATION" followed by a short descriptive phrase about each of the known services listed for that situation, an explanation of the services and eligibility requirements (if applicable), and finally, the telephone number for the service.

This book lists services by a service category, not by agency. This helps to speed the finding of needed services. For the most part, only Macomb County resources are listed. Exceptions to this are out-of-county resources included if a Macomb County facility is filled or county or state services that may be accessed in Macomb County.

To aid you in your use of this book, you will notice the following format: Each "*Situation*" is enclosed in a black box to differentiate it from other situations.

The symbol (~) is placed in front of each new service under that category. All known services for a situation are grouped under it regardless of what agency offers those services.

As names of agencies and programs frequently change, please note that the former name is indicated in brackets { }.

Every effort has been made to assure that the information is up-to-date and accurate. Due to the dynamic nature of organizations, information changes often.

We hope that you enjoy this resource and that you are able to locate help more quickly. For your information, *Small Books* are available on the following topics:

Adoption	Literacy
Child Abuse	Mental Health
Child Care	Parenting
Dementia	Recreation/Leisure
Dental	Runaway Services
Domestic Violence	Senior Citizen Services
Employment & Training Services	Sexual Assault
Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder	Special Needs
Financial Assistance	Substance Abuse
Food	Suicide Prevention
Gambling Addiction/Problems	Support Groups
Resources	Teen Pregnancy Service
Health	Transportation
Homeless Services	Utility Assistance
Housing	Vision and Hearing Services
Legal Issues	Glossary

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SEXUAL ASSAULT

SITUATION: A person has been sexually assaulted.

If a person has been sexually assaulted, these guidelines are recommended:

1. Get to a safe place.
2. Do not shower, bathe, douche, brush your teeth, change or destroy clothing or straighten up the area where the assault occurred.
3. Contact someone you trust.
4. Call the Nurse Examiner program* (In Macomb County, call Turning Point* at (586) 463-6990) or call the Police Department where the assault occurred.

MEDICAL INFORMATION

It is extremely important for victims of a sexual assault to get medical attention through the nurse examiner program or a private doctor in order to be:

- Treated for bodily injuries and injury to sexual organs.
- Tested and treated for pregnancy and sexually-transmitted diseases, and
- To collect and document medical evidence in case the victim decides to prosecute.

NOTE: *The victim can still prosecute without having a medical exam. He/she may be eligible for crime victims compensation to cover costs of medical treatment if he/she reports the crime within 48 hours. Also, personal injury suits may be filed in civil court.*

WHAT WILL HAPPEN AT THE EMERGENCY ROOM?

The staff is there to provide the best physical and emotional care possible. They will probably ask about the assault so they know what injuries need to be treated.

A sexual assault exam or a pelvic exam will be performed to check for any internal injuries or to test for STDs*. This is important for the victim's health and if he/she should decide to prosecute.

The victim's clothes may be confiscated for evidence, so if possible, he/she should take a change of clothes to the hospital/doctor. If contacted, Turning Point, (586) 463-6990, will provide a sweat suit for the victim to wear home.

The victim may need to call the police, but that does not mean the victim must prosecute or even speak with the police officer. If the victim wishes to talk with the police officer, he/she will be given that opportunity.

The victim wishes to speak with a sexual assault counselor, refer him/her to Turning Point*, (586) 463-6990.

SITUATION: A victim of sexual assault needs to talk with someone.

❖ A 24-hour crisis line for victims of sexual assault is available from Turning Point*, (586) 463-6990.

SITUATION: A victim of sexual assault needs support and information after a sexual assault.

- ❖ **Crisis intervention, support, and information for victims of sexual assault** provides a first response team free to sexual assault victims 13 and older and their families at hospitals and police stations. Services include emotional support, information for the victims and their families, providing a sweat suit for victims to wear home (clothes are often confiscated for evidence) and a sexual assault evidence kit. This service is free, confidential and available 24 hours a day. Call Turning Point*, (586) 463-6990.

SITUATION: A victim of sexual assault needs assistance in dealing with the court system after an assault.

- ❖ **Supportive personnel and information to victims of sexual assault who are involved with the court.** Available from the Court Advocacy program at Turning Point* Sexual Assault Department, (586) 463-6990.
- ❖ **Information and help in filing for crime victim compensation, referrals for needed services, information on how the Court works and case status, assistance in completing the victim impact statement for sentencing purposes, assistance for the return of personal property, and information and assistance in receiving restitution.** Available from the Macomb County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, Victim/Witness Rights unit, (586) 469-5675.

SITUATION: A victim of sexual assault needs counseling after a sexual assault.

- ❖ **Free individual and group counseling for victims of sexual assault 13 years and older and their significant others.** The groups are open ended. Available from Turning Point*, (586) 463-6990.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This booklet has been developed from "*Making the Right Connection*", a project of the Macomb County Inter Agency Council and its Youth Council Subcommittee.

For the complete Resource Directory, please go to www.misd.net/connection





GREAT PARENTS MACOMB*
Serving families with children birth to age 5

For information on other resources for families of children
age birth to 5 years, please call:

1.866.4MACOMB

1.866.464.2662

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