



# SAAFE CENTER NEWS

August 2013

www.victimsservices.org  
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## GUEST COLUMNIST: KARRIE

### On Being an Advocate

I became an Advocate because I wanted to help individuals who experienced sexual assault in any way I could. However, after becoming an Advocate I began to look back on my past experiences and realized I had experienced a lot more sexual assault and harassment than I had originally thought. Sure, I had always known that I had experienced street harassment from a random passerby every now and then, but the reality was I experienced these things a lot more from my peers and people I had called friends. Now

being an Advocate has new meaning; I want to help people realize that these things that society has normalized as being okay, is actually not okay. Throughout high school I never questioned people touching me without my consent, or pressuring me into doing things I was not okay with. I knew these acts were wrong, but I never realized just how wrong they were. It appalls me that it took me until I was a 20 year old woman to understand what sexual assault and harassment really are. It also saddens me that for some people it will take much longer

than 20 years of life to understand this - and some may never know. As individuals who are educated in what it means to be sexually assaulted, I believe that it is our duty to educate others. We shouldn't only work to educate victims of these crimes but also others who can continue to advocate with us. While it is important to continue to help victims, we need to increase the public's knowledge so that they can better understand what is going on around them and that it is not okay.

### *Mythbusters:*

- What's the deal with consent?
- Consent can only be given two ways: verbally, or by overwhelming non-verbal cues.
- So—if your partner is asleep, intoxicated, or silent, your partner has not given consent!
- How do I get consent?
- It's simple...ask!
- What if my partner says no?
- Respect your partner's wishes. Maybe another day will work better for both of you.

## ADVOCATE OF THE MONTH: KAY!!!

Although Kay is just now finishing her one-year of volunteering with SAAFE, from all she has done, it feels like we have been lucky to have her skills and knowledge for a much longer period of time. Kay got us through April

(Sexual Assault Awareness Month) with all the activities and now keeps the Center running smoothly with her expertise in management. Kay will be leaving SAAFE on Aug. 23 to pursue her Master's in Social Work at the Univer-

sity of Michigan and true to Kay's nature, she'll be working up to the last minute she is with us. She will be sorely missed but we wish her the very best of luck in her new endeavor. Congratulations, and THANK YOU, Kay!

**Upcoming:** Keep your eyes peeled for the fall date of **Women in Comedy:** a BGSU group of women dedicated to breaking comedy stereotypes while raising money for the SAAFE Center!

Registration is now open for the first ever ground breaking Ohio Healthy Masculinity Summit. Join the Ohio Men's Action Network (**OHMAN**) and its allies in a day of exploration, story telling, and conversation about creating an Ohio that welcomes men to express their manhood and masculinity in ways that are caring, compassionate, inclusive, promote gender equity, peace, and non-violent behavior.  
<http://mensactionnetwork.com/>

Here's a shout out to Nicole Montoleone of Thirty One Products. She sold products and donated a percentage of her sales to the SAAFE Center. Find her products here: [mythirtyone.com/241226](http://mythirtyone.com/241226)



## Review

Review and Renew Gatherings provide an opportunity for advocates to check on the status of At-Home Books, turn in time sheets for the month, receive a special training session, and get to know one another better! **All advocates must attend at least one R&R per month** (unless you are on LOA or are a Senior Advocate). Each month there will be an email sent with the dates that are available.

**Email Kay by August 13th to RSVP**

August dates:

August 18

1pm-2pm

3pm-4pm

August 22

7pm-8pm

In the SAAFE Office!

**and Renew**

## **Core Leader Enhancement**

For each advocate training class, The SAAFE Center utilizes the expertise of current victim advocates to help educate new trainees. We call these victim advocates *Core Leaders*. Core Leaders are a huge part of the educational process. The victim advocates wanting to be Core Leaders will be attending a training session called "Core Leader Enhancement." This will ensure all advocates are up to date on new training, information, details, and better prepared to help usher in a new class of victim advocates to serve Wood County, Ohio!

**What:** Core Leader Enhancement

**Who:** All current SAAFE Center victim advocates wanting to be a Core Leader

**When:** Sunday, August 4th, 3:00pm-4:00pm

**Where:** Large Boardroom

**RSVP to:** Rob, SAAFE Center Intern/Victim Advocate

Fall Volunteer training is coming up! Interested in changing lives by becoming a SAAFE Advocate?

Visit our website!

[www.victimsservices.org/getting-involved](http://www.victimsservices.org/getting-involved)

Applications must be turned in by:

**Thursday, Sept 5 at 5:00pm**

Training: September 9–November 7

Mondays and Thursdays; 6:00pm-8:30pm

(No class Oct 10th)



**The SAAFE Center**  
 Sexual Assault Awareness For Empowerment