

InterAct's SOLACE CENTER

InterAct's Solace Center, is the first and only community-based forensic examination center in North Carolina. The Solace Center provides comprehensive, expert, compassionate forensic nursing care, advocacy, and support at no cost to the survivor.

At InterAct's Solace Center We Serve:

- Survivors of all Gender Identities, Gender Expressions, Sexual Orientations, Race, Color, National Origin, Language or Religion
- Sexual assault survivors 16 years old and older. Survivors who are 15 years old or younger should be referred to WakeMed Children's Emergency Department where a trained Pediatric Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner is available

At InterAct's Solace Center We Provide:

- Expert forensic nursing care and victim advocacy
- Prevention for sexually transmitted infections and pregnancy within 5-days (120-hours) of a sexual assault
- Forensic evidence collection within 5-days (120 hours) of a sexual assault
- Immediate and long-term support

Solace Center Line
(919) 828-3067

OUR VISION

Inspired by the belief that every person has the right to be safe and empowered, we envision a community free from domestic and sexual violence where healthy relationships prosper.

OUR MISSION

Dedicated to ending the cycle of domestic and sexual violence in Wake County, InterAct saves lives, rebuilds lives, and secures safer futures for victims and survivors and their families.



InterAct is a private, non-profit agency that provides safety, support, and awareness to victims and survivors of domestic violence and rape/sexual assault. InterAct also promotes violence-free relationships and communities through collaboration, public information, education and advocacy.

InterAct provides 24-hour crisis support for domestic violence and rape/sexual assault:

CRISIS LINE AVAILABLE 24/7
919.828.7740

1012 Oberlin Rd. Raleigh, NC 27605

Transportation to and from the Solace Center can be arranged for those in need. Speak with the crisis counselor when making an appointment to find out what transportation options are available.

919-828-7501 Administration
www.interactofwake.org

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SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS
SAFETY & SUPPORT

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Sexual Violence

- Sexual assault refers to contact that occurs without the explicit consent of the victim and could include unwanted fondling, kissing, penetration or other sexual acts performed on the victim's body
- Sexual violence is the most under-reported crime in the world and impacts every gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, religion, age, ability, or socioeconomic status. It can take many forms, including sexual assault, harassment, exploitation, unsolicited sexual content, stalking, leaking or sharing intimate photos and talk. Sexual violence often takes the form of both emotional and physical abuse often leaving one feeling vulnerable and alone.
- Most of the time, the perpetrator of sexual assault is someone known by or close to the victim
- Consent to engage in sexual activity should be free of coercion, pressure, manipulation, force or while under the influence of impairing substances

Sexual violence is never the victim's fault.

interact
Solace Center Line
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What Are your Options?

Many survivors feel shame, fear, and isolation after an assault. It may take months or years before they ever disclose.

- Within five days (120 hours) of an assault, a medical forensic examination can occur. During a medical forensic examination, a trained Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) can help prevent sexually transmitted infections and pregnancy, provide crisis support, and complete forensic evidence collection
- Some forms of evidence collected can degrade within hours and days of an assault. For this reason, it is important that victims receive forensic nursing care as soon as possible. Forensic exams can take place within 5 days (120 hours) of an assault
- A forensic nurse can collect evidence from a survivor's body, clothes, and linens, so whenever possible, a survivor should avoid washing their clothes or taking a shower prior to their examination
- Other forms of care and support can be offered after this window of time

Long-Term Support

- Our trained advocates and sexual assault services staff can assist survivors with their immediate and long-term goals such as: disclosing to friends or family, obtaining a protective order, reporting to law enforcement, obtaining medical or mental health care, legal support, housing, food, crime victim compensation, and many more services

Accessing InterAct's Solace Center Services

- Please call InterAct's Solace Center first to schedule an appointment at 919-828-3067
- Calls are answered by trained staff and volunteers 24/7, 7 days a week
- An advocate will assist in making an appointment with one of our SANEs
- Survivors who present to local emergency departments may also be referred to InterAct's Solace Center

- Survivors with injuries or medical conditions they feel require emergency medical attention should go to the nearest emergency department or call 911. After they are medically cleared, an appointment can be made with a Solace Center SANE
- Solace Center services are available to all survivors regardless of where the assault occurred, **at no cost to the survivor**

What a Survivor Can Expect at InterAct's Solace Center

- When a survivor arrives at the Solace Center, they will receive support from a trained Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) and a Victim Advocate. They work together to explain the process, procedure, and all options available to the survivor.

All services are confidential and free of charge.

The appointment may include:

- Gathering the patient's medical history and vital signs
- Obtaining the patient's history of the assault. This guides the SANE in determining what healthcare options are available
- An assessment by a Registered Nurse
- Evidence collection which may include swabs from parts of the body that were affected, hair samples, clothing and debris collection, swabs of the inner cheek for the patient's DNA, and other applicable forms of evidence
- Medico-forensic photographs
- Discharge planning, education, resources, and follow up information
- Support, accompaniment, and advocacy with law enforcement should the patient choose to report the assault
- A private bathroom, shower, change of clothes, and hygiene supplies