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
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.

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.

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.