## Solace Center

at Interact is the only

# free-standing community-based sexual assault forensic exam center

in Wake County.

Solace Center is one of InterAct's core services providing wrap-around care for victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Since 2011, the Solace Center has provided expert, compassionate care at no cost to the survivor.



## Solace Center

Sexual violence is one of the most underreported crimes, affecting people of all genders, races, and backgrounds. It includes sexual assault, harassment, stalking, and exploitation.

Individuals cared for at the Solace Center have access to a comprehensive system of care that addresses not only forensic evidence collection, but also the emotional, legal, and advocacy needs of the survivor. Our forensic nurses and response advocates provide forensic exams and emotional support in a safe, calm, and supportive setting. Crisis counselors and case managers provide advocacy, education, and therapeutic support, and coordinate legal assistance and mental health and substance abuse counseling.

Survivors receive care from specially trained providers who deeply understand their journey and who offer a seamless continuum of services as needed. Such a holistic approach is essential for helping survivors heal and feel supported.

#### Who We Serve

- All people 16 and older who need our services
- Those 15 and younger are referred to WakeMed Children's Emergency Department

#### **Our Services**

- Specialized forensic nursing care and advocacy
- Forensic evidence collection within 5 days (120 hours) of an assault
- Crisis intervention services
- Connection with case manager for immediate and longterm support, such as support groups, safety planning, and community referrals
- Referrals for follow-up care and assistance with medication

#### Your Options After an Assault

- Evidence collection should occur as soon as possible, as some evidence degrades quickly. For this reason, a medical forensic examination is an option. If elected, a forensic exam must be conducted within 5 days (120 hours) of an assault.
- Forensic exams can be performed and evidence stored anonymously until the survivor decides they are ready to report to law enforcement.
- Support and advocacy services are available even if the survivor decides not to proceed with the forensic exam.

#### **Long-Term Support for Survivors**

- Support and referrals around medical and mental health care
- Assistance with reporting to law enforcement and support/advocacy through the investigation and potential court processes
- Obtaining protective orders and legal assistance
- Access to housing, food, and other essential services

#### To schedule an appointment

- Call the Solace Center at (919) 828-3067 to schedule an appointment
- Trained staff are available 24/7 to provide support and assistance
- Survivors referred from local emergency departments are welcome
- Services are available at no cost to survivors, regardless of where the assault occurred

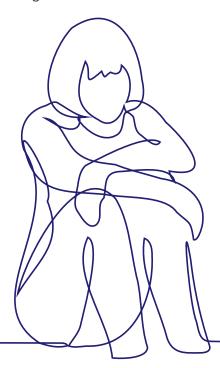
### (919) 828-7740

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

#### What to Expect During a Visit

Upon arrival, survivors receive confidential support from a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) and a Sexual Assault Response Advocate (SARA). The process may include:

- Medical history review and assessment
- Evidence collection, including swabs for DNA samples, injury assessment, and collection of clothing
- · Forensic photography (if applicable)
- Discharge planning, education, and follow-up support resources
- Support in reporting to law enforcement (if the survivor chooses)
- Access to a private bathroom, shower, and fresh clothing



## You are not alone.

## If you or someone you know needs support, call us at (919) 828-7740 today. We are here to help.

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 promotes violence-free relationships and communities through collaboration, public information, education and advocacy.

The Solace Center is located at 1012 Oberlin Rd. Raleigh, NC 27605 inside the InterAct building.

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. Interpretation services can also be arranged for non-English speakers.

Administration (M-F, 9a-5p) 919-828-7501 or info@interactofwake.org

InterAct is 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.

We envision a community free from violence, where all individuals are safe and empowered.



