

SANTA BARBARA RAPE CRISIS CENTER/ CENTRO CONTRA LA VIOLACION

Rape Crisis Advocate Position Description and Requirements

REQUIREMENTS

Because of the nature and intensity of the training program, applicants must meet the following minimum qualifications:

- Applicants must be at least 16 years old when the Crisis Intervention Training begins.
- Applicants must have an interest in assisting sexual assault survivors and their significant others.
- Applicants must be willing to uphold SBRCC's mission statement, position papers, and philosophy.
- Applicants must be willing to participate in additional events to advance the goals of SBRCC.
- Completion of OCJP approved Crisis Intervention Training is necessary to work with clients.
- Reliable transportation is desirable (including a valid California driver's license and automobile insurance).
- Applicants must have good communication and interpersonal skills and an ability to work well with people from various cultures and backgrounds.
- Spanish speaking skills are desirable.
- Applicants must be able to attend all training sessions.
- Applicants must commit to one year of volunteering at SBRCC.
- Applicants may not have a history of perpetrating sexual assault or harassment or any unresolved allegations pertaining to a sexual assault.
- Sexual assault survivors must be emotionally ready to assist other survivors and be no less than one year past their own assault/abuse experience.
- Applicants with a history of chemical dependency must have been clean and sober for at least one year prior to training.
- Applicants must consent for and understand that SBRCC may conduct a criminal background check.

POSITION DUTIES

- Provide information, support, accompaniment and advocacy to meet the medical, legal and emotional needs of clients.

- Be available to do follow-up work with clients with whom you have made contact or as requested by the Crisis Intervention Coordinating Staff. If unavailable to work with a client, inform the appropriate Crisis Intervention Coordinating Staff within 24 hours after receiving a request.
- Attend monthly Advocate meetings (at least eight in a 12 month period). Attendance at in-service trainings is mandatory to maintain Office of Criminal Justice Planning (OCJP) certification. Currently Advocate meetings and in-service trainings are held simultaneously.
- Attend the annual Human Relations Training, which is necessary in order to maintain OCJP certification
- Complete and turn in Call Report Forms within 48 hours of contact with a client to the Crisis Intervention Coordinating Staff. On a monthly basis, complete and turn in Advocate shift logs to the Crisis Intervention Coordinator.
- Maintain active, open communication with Crisis Intervention Coordinating Staff in order to facilitate the exchange of information about clients.
- Maintain a positive working relationship with law enforcement, medical personnel and Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center (SBRCC) staff and volunteers in order to ensure successful delivery of services to clients.

In order to meet the needs of our diverse clients, SBRCC has created specific advocate roles. These positions include the following: Female Advocates, Male Advocates, Transgender Advocates, and Teen Advocates.

- Female Advocates' primary duty is to serve as an Advocate and Crisis Counselor to teen and adult survivors of sexual assault and their significant others by staffing a weekly 6-hour shift on the Hotline from your home, or from SBRCC during regular business hours. Advocates serving on the Hotline are expected to respond to a crisis call in 3 to 5 minutes and must be able to arrive to an in-person crisis call within 20 minutes.
- Male, Transgender, and Teen Advocates do not serve on our 24-hour crisis hotline. Rather they serve as an Advocate and Crisis Counselor to survivors or significant others on an as needed basis. The primary duty for Male, Transgender, and Teen Advocates is to actively participate as a Speaker's Bureau member and commit to do one presentation per month. Applicant must have an interest in educating the community on sexual assault and related issues. Upon completion of the Crisis Intervention Training, you must begin the Speaker's Bureau Training immediately.

Santa Barbara Rape Crisis Center staff reserves the right to refuse enrollment to anyone who they feel is not suitable for the program. Participation in training does not guarantee certification as a sexual assault counselor, nor does it guarantee a volunteer assignment.