



GCASAFV News:

The Enhancing Judicial Skills in Elder Abuse Cases Workshop

The elderly are often vulnerable to physical, psychological, sexual, and financial abuse. Those who abuse the elderly are often family and/or caregivers. Barriers to reporting abuse include lack of knowledge, legal concerns, discomfort in showing ignorance, sense of powerlessness, fear of offending the abuser, minimization and denial, etc. On Guam, culture is one of many factors that affects the quality of services that the victim/survivor can receive. Whether it is in a judge’s courtroom or in a service provider’s office, it is important that survivors of abuse in later life be given the opportunity to share about their abuse.



The Pacific Judicial Council held their “Enhancing Judicial Skills in Elder Abuse Cases Workshop” from June 4 – 6, at the Hilton Resort Guam. Member jurisdictions include American Samoa, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, the Republic of Palau, and the Federated States of Micronesia (consisting of Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei, and Yap). Judicial officers gathered on the first two days to learn about aging and the dynamics of elder abuse, how fairness and culture issues affect elder abuse cases, and focused on their decision-making skills to preserve the dignity of elders.

Stakeholders attended the training on its third day to also learn about the dynamics of elder abuse and the effects of cultural factors, as well as how to look for signs of elder abuse in their respective fields. Judges and stakeholders gathered to discuss judges’ leadership role, as well as address the attitudinal, physical and legal barriers to justice. The workshop closed with all attendees acknowledging and discussing the need for collaboration and coordination among systems and service providers to further enhance court and system responses for victims of elder abuse.

To get more information on materials provided at the workshop, visit <https://njidv.org/education-opportunities/elder-abuse/materials.html>.

Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church 8th Annual Health Fair



The Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church celebrated the feast of its patroness on June 9. In conjunction with this occasion, they held their 8th Annual Health Fair on their church/social hall grounds in Toto. Various organizations offered information on their services and resources, including GCASAFV; Sanctuary Inc.; WestCare; VARO; and the University of Guam Centers for Excellence in Developmental Disabilities Education, Research, and Service. Attendees had the opportunity to learn more about being healthy and safe, and where to seek help when needed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

To include announcements and events in our newsletters, email us at info@guamcoalition.org

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM GCASAFV, MEMBERS, AND PARTNERS

Summer Power Camp 2018 GALA

July 2 – 20, 2018
8:00 am – 12:00 pm
Ironwood Heights, Tamuning
For more info, contact galaguam@gmail.com or call 969-5483

6th Annual Technology Summit

National Network to End Domestic Violence
July 30 – August 1, 2018
San Francisco, CA
For more info, visit www.techsafety.org/technology-summit

2018 Asian Pacific Institute Gender-Based Violence National Summit

Asian Pacific Islander Agents of Change: Disrupting Gender Violence, Defining Gender Democracy
August 5 -- 7, 2018
Los Angeles, CA
For more info, visit <https://www.api-gbv.org>

National Sexual Assault Conference

California Coalition Against Sexual Assault

August 29 – 31, 2018

Anaheim, CA

For more info, visit

www.calcasa.org/events/nsac/nsac2018/

23rd International Summit on Violence, Abuse & Trauma Across the Lifespan

Institute on Violence, Abuse, and Trauma

September 6 -- 9, 2018

San Diego, CA

<http://www.ivatcenters.org/san-diego-summit/>

WEBINARS

Trial Advocacy Webinar Series ~ Impeachment by Prior Inconsistent Statement and Refreshing Recollection (part 2 of 2)

ABA Commission on Domestic & Sexual Violence

July 25, 2018

3:30 am ChST

<https://ta2ta.org/webinars/registration/trial-advocacy-webinar.html>

Removing Barriers for People with Disabilities Seeking Domestic Violence Restraining Orders

National Center on Protection Orders and Full Faith & Credit

July 25, 2018

3:00 am - 4:30 am ChST

http://www.bwjp.org/training/webinar-removing-barriers-people-with-disabilities-seeking-domestic-violence-restraining-orders.html?utm_source=All+Subscribers&utm_campaign=cbaf683e20-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2017_03_10_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_347d47d8e9_cbaf683e20-132884909

Introduction to VARO

By Karen Carpenter

Victim Advocates Reaching Out (VARO) is celebrating its 36th anniversary this year. Originally named Counseling Advocates Reaching Out, the name was later changed to more accurately reflect its mission: provide crisis intervention and advocacy to victims of violent crimes and traumatic events, community education on related issues, and necessary related service projects or programs. VARO currently functions with a nine-member volunteer board, which is led by Dr. Judith Won Pat, President. VARO also has one full-time Crisis Supervisor/Advocate, two other full-time advocates, and three contracted part-time individuals. VARO has 24 active volunteers. VARO provides the following services:

- **Crisis intervention, advocacy, and emotional support:**

VARO responds primarily to victims/survivors, sexual abuse, child abuse, dating violence, and stalking. However, VARO also responds to victims/survivors of any crime. These victim/survivor services include assistance via the 24-hour hotline (477-5552), 3-5-day emergency shelter, emergency food and clothing, transportation, assistance in filling out pro se protective order requests, accompaniment to the police precinct to report the crime, and accompaniment to other community agencies or to court.

- **Assessment of victim needs and referral to appropriate community resources:** VARO will provide information on services from other community providers to victims/survivors.

- **Training of volunteer crisis intervention advocates:** VARO provides 40 hours of training for volunteers annually.

- **Community education:** VARO participates in numerous community outreach events to inform the public about VARO services, the impact of violent crimes, preventive measures, and the rights of crime victims. VARO also conducts presentations in the schools on dating violence and sexual assault, as well as to community groups.

- **Coordinate and network with criminal justice and human service agencies:** To enhance partnerships in providing services to victims, VARO attends the GCASAFV, Sexual Assault Response Team (SART), and the Governor's Community Outreach-Federal Programs meetings. These meetings allow VARO to work closer with community partners, identify gaps in services, and finding solutions to fill those gaps.



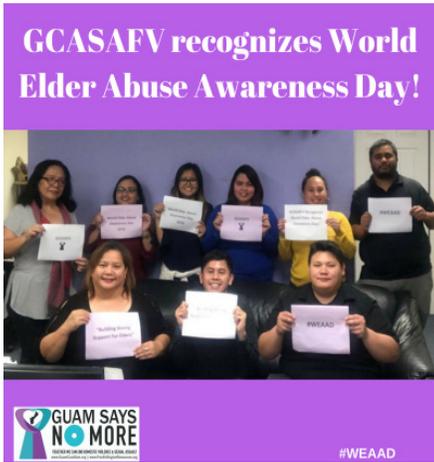
Karen Carpenter is an office manager and bookkeeper at VARO, an active member and secretary for Erica's House Board, and a GCASAFV community member.

GCASAFV congratulates VARO on 36 years of service to the island community! VARO continues to be a valuable resource for victims/survivors and their supportive loved ones. If you or someone you know has been affected by trauma, contact the hotline 477-5552 or email varoguam1@yahoo.com.

GCASAFV News:

GCASAFV Says NO MORE to Elder Abuse

GCASAFV recognized World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEEAD) on June 15, 2018! Fact: 1 out of 10 people ages 60 and older experience neglect, abuse, and financial exploitation. The aim of promoting WEEAD is recognizing that we all have a part in preventing elder abuse. The National Center on Elder Abuse gives us ways we can prevent elder abuse and neglect, such as:



- 1) Learn the signs of elder abuse and neglect.
- 2) Call or visit an elderly loved one and ask how he or she is doing.
- 3) Provide a respite break for a caregiver.
- 4) Ask your bank manager to train tellers on how to detect elder financial abuse.
- 5) Ask your doctor to ask you and all other senior patients about possible family violence in their lives.

To learn more on how we can prevent elder abuse and neglect, follow the link <https://ncea.acl.gov/resources/docs/12-Things-Prevent-EA.pdf>

GALA'S 10th Anniversary

GALA celebrated 10 years of providing social and health services to LGBTQ youth, adults, and families. In commemoration of this milestone, GALA held a special prayer service and reception on June 24 at St. John's Episcopal Church. During this momentous occasion, GALA was presented with a legislative resolution from the Guam Legislature. GCASAFV extends its warmest congratulations to GALA!



Victims Services-- Training of Trainers

The Department of Public Health and Social Services, Division of Senior Citizens and partners of the TASI Project attended the Victim Services - Training of Trainers in Denver, CO from June 26 to 28. GCASAFV and the Public Defender Service Corporation (PDSC) participated in the training.

"At PDSC, we feel that every client is someone's father, mother, brother, sister, son or daughter and they all deserve equal representation whether they can afford it or not. This cross-training helps PDSC build our capacity to be more effective in the work we do to help our

Manamko... PDSC recognizes the value in this training partnership to foster public awareness about elder abuse - its dynamics, victim-centered responses and the importance of collaboration between service providers- and is fully committed to training and collaborating with its community of service providers to effectively address and end elder abuse on Guam," as stated by Cathleen Moylan, PDSC Program Coordinator.

Through this training, the Guam Team gained the tools to facilitate local training for TASI Project partners, as well as other agencies that work with elders. The team also worked with the National Clearinghouse on Abuse in Later Life to address the Outreach and Services Strategic Planning and was able to collaborate with other agencies to gain resources.

GCASAFV Announcements



Technical Assistance (TA) Training & Services

GCASAFV is issuing a Request for Qualifications (RFQ 2018-001) for the services of agency(ies) or consultant(s) that have expertise on sexual assault and domestic violence in providing training and technical assistance to GCASAFV members and partners. For more information, visit <http://guamcoalition.org/happenings/news-announcements/rfq%E2%80%99s-bids>.

6th Annual Technology Summit

GCASAFV and representatives from the Archdiocese of Agana, Project Foresight, the Office of the Attorney General, and the Guam Police Department - Domestic Assault Response Team will attend the 6th Annual Tech Summit in San Francisco, CA from July 30 – August 1, 2018. This conference, hosted by the National Network to End Domestic Violence’s Safety Net Project, will cover the

intersection of technology with domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and trafficking. This conference will be beneficial for advocates, law enforcement, and legal professionals who work with survivors of abuse. For more information, visit <https://www.techsafety.org/technology-summit/>.



API-GBV 2018 National Summit

Representatives from the Judiciary of Guam, GCASAFV, VARO, Guma’ Mami, and Guam Legal Services Corporation - Disability Law Center will be attending the Asian Pacific Institute on Gender-Based Violence’s 2018 National Summit in Los Angeles, CA from August 5 -- 7. The three-day summit’s theme is *Asian Pacific Islander Agents of Change: Disrupting Gender Violence, Defining Gender Democracy*. The summit will cover topics that critical issues and trends that affect immigrant and refugee survivors of domestic violence, sexual violence and harassment,

trafficking, abusive international marriages, etc., in our communities. This summit will be beneficial to advocates, front line staff, community organizers, and executive directors addressing gender-based violence in Asian and Pacific Islander (API) communities, policy makers, national domestic violence organizations, state coalitions, technical assistance and training providers, researchers, students, and funders.

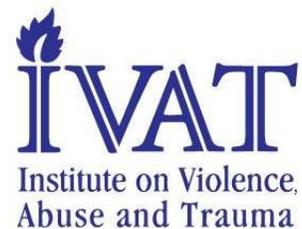
For more details about this summit, follow the link

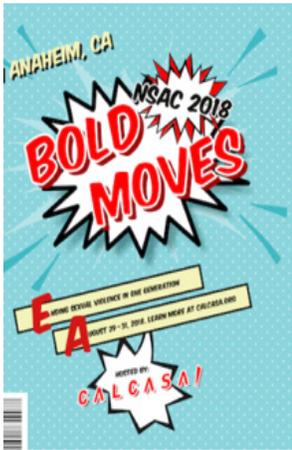
<https://s3.amazonaws.com/gbv-wp-uploads/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/15231050/API-GBV-Summit2018-Req-Packet.pdf>.

IVAT 2018: 23rd International Summit on Violence, Abuse & Trauma Across the Lifespan

Representatives from the Office of the Attorney General and the Guam Police Department will attend the Institute on Violence, Abuse, & Trauma (IVAT) 23rd International Summit in San Diego, CA from September 6-9. The summit’s theme is *Voices Against Violence: Breaking Through The Silence*. The summit will be a forum for all professionals of different types of disciplines and philosophies to share information on all dimensions of violence, abuse and trauma prevention, intervention and research. This summit will be beneficial to researchers, practitioners, advocates, survivors, and front-line workers from all disciplines. For more details about this summit, follow the link

<http://www.ivatcenters.org/san-diego-summit/>.





2018 National Sexual Assault Conference: Bold Moves: Ending Sexual Violence in One Generation

GCASAFV, the Office of the Attorney General, Sanctuary, Incorporated, the Judiciary of Guam, the Archdiocese of Agana, the Northern Marianas College, the GCA Trades Academy, and the College of Micronesia - Federated States of Micronesia will be attending the California Coalition Against Sexual Assault's National Sexual Assault Conference from August 29 – 31, 2018 in Anaheim, CA. GCASAFV's Cynthia Cabot, Pacific Partners Project (PPP) evaluator LisaLinda Natividad, board member Ansito Walter, and student intern Chelsea Fama will present a workshop entitled "Effective Culturally-Specific Sexual Misconduct Policies & Prevention Strategies for Campuses". This session will highlight evaluative data of student listening sessions, campus climate survey results, a review of a study of perspective of Pacific islanders, as well as adaptations to conventional approaches to prevention with respect to GCASAFV's PPP.

This conference will cover information, practices, and content that will incorporate culturally appropriate programs and services to underserved communities to change the conditions that promote sexual violence. The tracks for this conference have been designed to support the overall goal of ending sexual violence. For more conference details, visit <http://www.calcasa.org/events/nsac/nsac2018/>.

GCASAFV News

National Sexual Violence Resource Center Evaluation Toolkit

The National Sexual Violence Resource Center recently released their Evaluation Toolkit, which is a series of online training modules that provide service agency staff with the resources to increase their capacity to apply program evaluations to their work. You can access the toolkit at <https://www.nsvrc.org/prevention/evaluation-toolkit>.



PreventConnect Peer Learning Forum

The Peer Learning Forum is a webinar and discussion board that aims to strengthen the collaboration of sexual and domestic violence prevention specialists on their prevention work. The Forum, which began in 2013, is conducted in a series of web conferences with interactive features. It includes online question and answer sessions and live text chats between participants. Past recorded web conferences and updates on the 2018 series *From a Cycle of Violence to a Culture of Safety and Equity* can be accessed on <http://www.preventconnect.org/2017/12/announcing-the-2018-preventconnect-web-conference-series/>.

Pacific Partners Project (PPP) Updates

GCASAFV met with its partner college campuses through Zoom call to provide an opportunity for PPP campuses to share updates and identify any challenges they experienced. Key updates that were shared included completed activities between the months of April through June, and anticipated activities. Northern Marianas College will be holding a sexual harassment training for student employees. The University of Guam, in collaboration with campus and community partners, conducted a training with security personnel on victim blaming. Additionally, GCASAFV invited members to take part in a Sexual Assault Response Team webinar hosted by the National Sexual Violence Resource Center which will introduce the updated SART toolkit. The SART toolkit is the culmination of collaborative efforts to provide evidence-based information on best practices to SARTs.

Pacific Region Health Information Project Update

Through the Office of Minority Health Resource Center, GCASAFV worked with a media consultant to design ads for various publications in Guam, American Samoa, Pohnpei, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands. The ads incorporated information on healthy and unhealthy relationships, identified each HIV testing site on the islands, and promoted HIV testing. Additionally, the ads include important information on STDs that will encourage health screening for early detection. The ads were featured in the following publications: the 2018 Guam Healthcare Directory, the 2018 Summer and Spring issues of the HafaTeen Magazine, the Filipino Community Group Directory, the Kaselehlie Press in Pohnpei, the Samoa News, and the Marshall Island Journal.

HIV is a growing issue for Asian & Pacific Islanders (API)

Silence and shame associated with HIV is so powerful that people avoid talking about sex or STDs entirely. People will refrain from open discussions of sex, their sexuality or their HIV status for fear of being rejected by their families and friends. People may avoid HIV testing because they don't want anyone to recognize them. Stigma is both a barrier to accessing testing and treatment services as well as a factor that increases unsafe behaviors like unprotected sex or drug use.



Know the Stats

APIs were one of two groups to have a statistically significant increase among all racial or ethnic groups (5.5% for men) (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, HIV Surveillance Report: Diagnoses of HIV Infection in the United States and Dependent Areas, 2015; vol. 27)

66.5% of Asian Americans and 43.1% of Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islanders have never been tested for HIV. (https://ftp.cdc.gov/pub/Health_Statistics/NCHS/NHIS/SHS/2015_SHS_Table_A-20.pdf)

- Most people who have **STDs** don't have symptoms. The only way to know is to get tested.
- **1 in 2** sexually active young people will get **STDs** by 25. Most won't know it.
- If left untreated, **STDs** can cause life-long damage to sexual organs and cause infertility.
- Being infected with **STDs** increases your risk of getting **HIV**.
- **Knowing your status** and early treatment can improve your chances of living longer, healthier life.

Pacific Region Resources

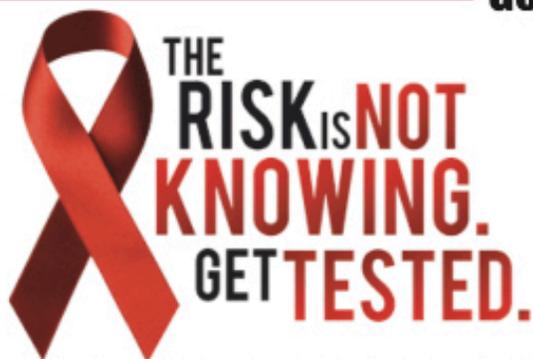
Do you know where one can get services? The Pacific Region Resources (PRR) is an online community resource directory that lists current services in the Pacific region. PRR provides a listing of service providers who are faith-based, non-profit, government, and private businesses. Seek the help you need at www.PacificRegionResources.org or download the app from Google Play or on the iTunes App store.

GET THE APP!

GET LISTED!

If you are a service provider, get listed on our online directory by registering at <http://PacificRegionResources.org/register/>

Get Tested!



HIV TESTING CENTERS

Guam AIDS Hotline: (671) 734-2437

Guam Public Health HIV/STD Program: (671) 735-7137/66

GALA: (671) 487-2167

West Care: (671) 471-0218/9



Guam Coalition Against
Sexual Assault &
Family Violence

This publication is provided by the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence in collaboration with its community partners. This is supported by the US Department of Health and Human Services Office of HIV/AIDS and Infectious Disease Policy, Secretary's Minority AIDS Initiative Fund administered by the Office of Minority Health Resource Center. The opinions, conclusions, and recommendations expressed are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the funding agency.

HIV/AIDS IS A GROWING ISSUE FOR ASIANS AND PACIFIC ISLANDERS

Silence and shame are so closely linked to HIV/AIDS that people do not talk about sex, their sexuality, or their HIV/AIDS status for fear of being rejected by their families and friends. People may not get tested to find out about their status because they don't want to be seen getting tested. This becomes a barrier to getting tested and treatment services and also increases unsafe behaviors like unprotected sex or drug use.

Everyone Has a Status! Do You Know Your Health Status?

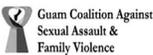


Why Should You Get Tested?

- Most people who have a sexually-transmitted disease don't have symptoms. The only way to know is to get tested.
- 1 in 2 sexually active young people will get an STD by 25. Most won't know it.
- If left untreated, STDs can cause life-long damage to sexual organs and cause infertility.
- Being infected with an STD increases your risk of getting HIV.
- Knowing your status and early treatment can improve your chances of living a longer, healthier life.

Where Can You Get Tested?

Public Health, Pohnpei, FSM
Phone number: 320-6955
Email: nedward@fsmhealth.fm,
janaedwardoumj@gmail.com
Hours: M-F, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Closed on Saturdays, Sundays, and Holidays



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GCASAFV ad in the Kaselehlie Press in Pohnpei, FSM

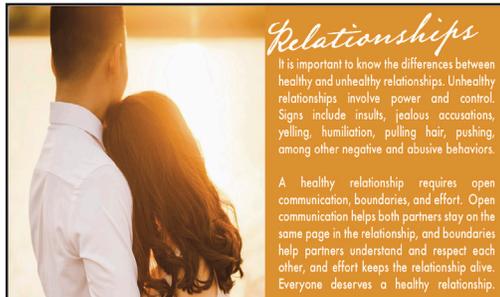
EVERYONE HAS A STATUS
do you know yours?

HIV Testing Centers
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Guam Public Health HIV/STD Program: (671) 735-7137/66
GALA: (671) 487-2167
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For more information visit:
PacificRegionResources.org



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GCASAFV ad in the Filipino Community Group Directory



Relationships

It is important to know the differences between healthy and unhealthy relationships. Unhealthy relationships involve power and control. Signs include insults, jealous accusations, yelling, humiliation, pulling hair, pushing, among other negative and abusive behaviors.

A healthy relationship requires open communication, boundaries, and effort. Open communication helps both partners stay on the same page in the relationship, and boundaries help partners understand and respect each other, and effort keeps the relationship alive. Everyone deserves a healthy relationship.

MAY IS NATIONAL ASIAN AMERICAN, NATIVE HAWAIIAN, AND OTHER PACIFIC ISLANDERS HERITAGE MONTH

GCASAFV joins in celebrating National Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islanders Heritage Month.

Come Join Us!

May 19 is National Asian & Pacific Islander HIV/AIDS Awareness Day!

According to the Center for Disease Control, 1 in 5 Asian & Pacific Islanders is living with HIV/AIDS, and they do not know it. Each year on May 19, organizations and individuals nationwide join together to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS in Asian and Pacific Islander communities and help end HIV stigma and encourage testing.

Please join the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence, GALA, and the May Planning Committee for their upcoming events:

- National HIV/AIDS Awareness Day Wave and Talk:
 - o When: May 19, 2018; 4:00pm - 6:00pm
 - o Where: TATUHA Mayor's Park
- National HIV/AIDS Awareness Day Outreach:
 - o When: May 20, 2018; 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
 - o Where: Agana Shopping Center

Please email info@guamcoalition.org or call 479-2277.



GCASAFV ad in the Spring 2018 issue of HafaTeen Magazine

Take Control of Your Health

You have more control of your health than you may think. Eating healthy and regular exercise are important ways to live a healthy life; but so does knowing your HIV status and keeping your vaccinations regularly updated. We can help!

We provide FREE and confidential HIV testing. Receive results in 30 minutes. Should you meet eligibility requirements, we may also refer you to our partners at public health to meet your immunization needs.

Visit galaguam.org
Call our 24 Hour Helpline 487-2167
Or call Public Health 735-7137/66

Pacific Region Resources

Do you know where to get services if someone is in trouble? The Pacific Region Resources (PRR) is an online community resource directory that lists current services in the Pacific region. PRR provides a listing of service providers who are faith-based, non-profit, government, and private businesses. Seek the help you need at www.PacificRegionResources.org or download the app from Google Play or on the iTunes App store.

GET THE APP!

Why Should I Get Tested?

- Most people who have an STD don't have symptoms. The only way to know is to get tested.
- 1 in 2 sexually active young people will get an STD by 25. Most won't know it.
- If left untreated, STDs can cause life-long damage to sexual organs and cause infertility.
- Being infected with a STD increases your risk of getting HIV.
- Knowing your status and early treatment can improve your chances of living longer, healthier life.

Make Your Health Your Priority



How Can I Protect Myself?

A few easy steps can lower your risk of getting an STD.

- Abstinence - not having sex - is the only sure way not to get an STD.
- Learn about STDs - If you notice a symptom, get checked.
- Talk to your partner - Ask about past sex partners, condom use, and STD testing.
- Look closely at your partner - Check for any signs of an STD. If you see anything that worries you, don't have sex.
- Know your status - Get tested. It's the only way to find out if you have an STD.

HIV Testing Centers
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Healthy or Unhealthy Relationships?

Knowing the differences between healthy and unhealthy relationships is important. Unhealthy relationships are about power and control. Signs of an unhealthy relationship include insults, jealous accusations, yelling, humiliation, pulling hair, pushing and other negative, abusive behaviors. However, not all relationships are unhealthy. Three important factors make up a healthy relationship: communication, healthy boundaries, and effort. Communication helps both partners stay on the same page in their relationship, while healthy boundaries helps partners understand each other and respect the type of relationship they want. Healthy boundaries allow couples to live separate lives such as going out with friends and having separate hobbies. When all is said and done, remember to enjoy each other's company. Abuse is a choice, and you deserve respect in your relationship.

If your friend is in a crisis, do you know who the community resources are? The Pacific Region Resources (PRR) is an online community resource directory that lists current services in the Pacific region. Service providers listed include faith-based organizations, non-profit service providers, government agencies, and private businesses within the Pacific Islands. Whether you want more information on services available in your area for your reference or if someone you know needs help, the PRR can help you get the information you need. You can access the directory either online through www.PacificRegionResources.org or download the app on the Google Playstore or on the Apple Store.

Countdown to Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Child Abuse Prevention Month

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys are sexually abused before the age of 18. Much can be done to raise awareness for sexual assault and child abuse, and you can be a part of it!

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Child Abuse Prevention Month (SAAM/CAPM)! Join the Guam Coalition Against Sexual Assault & Family Violence and the Department of Public Health & Social Services - Bureau of Social Services Administration for their upcoming events:

PROCLAMATION SIGNING:
4/03/18 11:00 AM
GCC Multi-Purpose Auditorium
WAVE: 4/04/18 4:30 - 5:30 PM
Marine Corps Drive across Chamorro Village
TABLING OUTREACH: 4/28/18 10AM - 2 PM
Micronesia Mall Center Court

HIV Testing Centers
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Save the dates, and come join us! For more information, email info@guamcoalition.org or call 479-2277



How Can I Protect Myself?

A few easy steps can lower your risk of getting a STD.

- Abstinence - not having sex - is the only sure way not to get an STD.
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- Look closely at your partner - Check for any signs of a STD. If you see anything that worries you, don't have sex.
- Know your status - Get tested. It's the only way to find out if you have an STD.

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- Being infected with an STD increases your risk of getting HIV.
- Knowing your status and early treatment can improve your chances of living a longer, healthier life.

Make Your Health Your Priority

Artwork poster by Leonilyn Matsunaga



GOMH
Guam Office of Minority Health



GCASAFV ad in the Summer 2018 issue of HafaTeen Magazine

July Celebrations

July 21st is Liberation Day

GCASAFV would also like everyone to have a Happy Liberation Day! The 2018 Liberation Day theme set forth by the Guam Liberation Historical Society is “Strengthening the Spirit of Guam.” GCASAFV joins the community in strengthening the spirit of Guam as we are inspired by our ancestors’ resilience, determination, and love for our island. Let this be the call to action to come together in unity against all forms of violence and effect a healthier and safer Guam.



Summer Safety



Look out for each other this summer

Summer is the perfect time for social events and fiestas. GCASAFV is encouraging everyone to become active bystanders. Being an active bystander can protect others in uncomfortable/harmful situations. Here are some tips on being an active bystander:

- Talk to your friends honestly and openly about sexual assault.
- Get someone to help you if you see something – enlist a friend, resident advisor, bartender, or a nearby authority figure to step in.
- Recognize the potential danger of someone who talks about planning to target another person.
- Never blame the victim.

For more information on how to become an active bystander, follow this link:

<https://www.itsonus.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/IOU-Bystander-Intervention-Tips.pdf>

Stay Safe Online

Technology is a powerful tool for networking, collaborating, and keeping in touch with family and friends. However, technology in the hands of a perpetrator can make cyberspace a dangerous place for the victim/survivor. Survivors deserve to explore the internet in a safe and secure way. Fortunately, there are ways to do so. Here are some ways:

- Use different passwords for accounts that contain sensitive or personally identifying information.
- Use anti-virus software, keep it updated, and regularly scan your devices.
- Periodically delete history, cookies, temporary internet files, and saved forms and passwords from your web browser.

Learn more about how to stay safe online here: <https://www.techsafety.org/onlineprivacyandsafetytips/>

CONTACT US



Guam Coalition Against
Sexual Assault &
Family Violence

Ada's Plaza Center, Suite 206B/207B,
173 Aspinall Ave., Hagåtña, GU 96910

P.O. Box 1093, Hagåtña, GU 96932

Phone : 1-671-479-2277

Fax : 1-671-479-7233

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