

Memorandum



DATE: January 11, 2013

TO: Members of the Public Safety Committee

SUBJECT: **Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) Program**

Attached is briefing material on the "Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) Program" to be presented to the Members of the Public Safety Committee on Monday, January 14, 2013.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A.C. Gonzalez', written over a circular stamp or mark.

A.C. Gonzalez
First Assistant City Manager

Attachment

CC: Honorable Mayor and Members of the Dallas City Council
Mary K. Suhm, City Manager
Rosa Rios, City Secretary
Thomas P. Perkins, Jr., City Attorney
Craig D. Kinton, City Auditor
Judge Daniel Solis, Administrative Judge
Ryan S. Evans, Assistant City Manager
Jill A. Jordan, P.E., Assistant City Manager
Forest E. Turner, Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Jeanne Chipperfield, Chief Financial Officer
Frank Libro, Public Information Office
Stephanie Cooper, Assistant to the City Manager Mayor/City Council



Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) Program

Public Safety Committee

January 14, 2013



www.dallaspolice.net

David O. Brown
Chief Of Police

OUTLINE

- Benefits associated with SANE programs
- Overview of SANE Program at Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital - Dallas
- Expansion of SANE to southern Dallas County



Goals

- SANE programs are to:
 - Provide consistent positive results for all stakeholders
 - Reduce re-victimization of Sexual Assault Victims
 - Improve communications between victims, law enforcement, and district attorneys
 - Increase community safety as a result of more sex offender identifications/prosecutions

Need/Response

- Combating sexual assaults creates the need to provide immediate:
 - Medical treatment for Sexual Assault Victims
 - Collection of physical evidence
 - Victim advocacy to begin emotional healing

History – Dallas County

- In the 1970's, Parkland Hospital volunteered to become Dallas County's primary facility to perform sexual assault examinations
- Centralization of examinations created benefits for law enforcement, but often left victims feeling that improvements could be made

History – Info of SANE Programs

- SANE programs were designed to address various concerns, such as the need for:
 - More privacy
 - Physical layout of examination rooms changed
 - More sympathetic approach
 - Additional training for practitioners
 - Less gender bias
 - No distinction between gender is used when conducting exams

History

- **2008** – Advocates begin identifying key partners for creation of a SANE program in Dallas County
- **2009** - Texas Health Presbyterian Hospital - Dallas agrees to establish SANE program
- **2010** – SANE pilot program opens doors to serve sexual assault incidents reported within Northeast Patrol Division

History

- **Late 2010** – Charitable Foundations Texas provides funding for SANE program and DARCC (Dallas Area Rape Crisis Center)
- **April 2011** – Program expanded to include North Central Patrol Division
- **December 2011** – Choice between treatment at SANE program or pre-existing Parkland Hospital Program made available for all sexual assault victims reporting in the City of Dallas.

SANE BENEFITS FOR: SEXUAL ASSAULT VICTIMS

- Consistent emergency medical treatment from professionals who understand victimization issues
- Immediate advocacy response as per the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Agreement
- Focus on transition from Victim to Survivor
- Police Report is not required to receive medical treatment and Sexual Assault Examination
- Exam is performed at **no cost** to the victim/survivor

BENEFITS FOR: LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

- Trained SANE Nurses conduct Forensic Exams and collect evidence
- SANE Nurses are trained to provide effective courtroom testimony
- Encourages victims to report and remain engaged during criminal investigation and prosecution



BENEFITS FOR: COMMUNITY

- “Victims-centered” approach encourages reporting of offenses
- Increased reporting improves law enforcement opportunities to identify and prosecute sex offenders



SANE PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS





ALL SANE PROGRAMS IN TEXAS REQUIRE COLLABORATION FROM:

- ✓ Medical Facility & Nursing Staff
- ✓ Victim Advocacy Organizations
- ✓ Local Law Enforcement Agencies
- ✓ District Attorney's Office
- ✓ Texas Attorney General's Office

SANE EXAMINATION ROOM



EVIDENCE COLLECTED BY SANE NURSES

- Provide Identification of Suspect:
 - Fingerprints
 - DNA



- Additional Supporting Evidence for Sexual Assault Prosecution
 - Documentation of injuries
 - Toxicology screening to detect if drugs were involved

EXAMINATIONS PERFORMED BY SANE

	2011		2012	
	All Agencies	Dallas PD	All Agencies	Dallas PD
January	9	6	12	11
February	5	4	9	7
March	11	7	9	4
April	5	3	18	12
May	9	7	19	9
June	15	10	22	16
July	10	9	20	15
August	10	8	22	10
September	12	8	13	8
October	7	6	20	11
November	7	4	9	4
December	10	7	7	3
Yearly Total	109	80	180	110

ENDORSEMENTS OF SANE PROGRAM

Section 8 Thursday, May 3, 2012

Public safety | ADVOCACY

Hospital builds a better haven

Center offers victims of sexual assault support in a safe environment

By LARA MAGEE

The series of covered walk-in rooms and heated beds are not meant to make the victim feel safe, but to help her feel safe. The rooms are designed to be a safe haven for victims of sexual assault. The rooms are designed to be a safe haven for victims of sexual assault. The rooms are designed to be a safe haven for victims of sexual assault.

The Dallas Morning News

DALLAS

Nurses lead police to suspect in rapes

Program at Presbyterian helps them identify similarities in 2 cases

By TANYA EISEBER

The rapes happened three weeks apart, but the similarities were striking. These cases sounded exactly alike, said Loren Larkin, coordinator of Texas Health Presbyterian Dallas' sexual assault nurse examiner program.

Larkin notified police, who questioned the bodies of the rape victims from the two cases. He requested DNA analysis by the Dallas Police Officer Bailey as the

attacks and linked him to a rape in Dallas in 2010. Authorities say the genetic connections the Presbyterian nurses made between the two cases drove the powerful discovery.

He showed her out of the car and tossed out a knife from the car.

Larkin and another nurse were reviewing recent cases when they noticed the similarities between the two cases.

"When we began talking about the case, we were talking about the case of the rape victim."

After Larkin called to the police, he said that the analysis, in December, a database maintained by the Texas Department of Public Safety connected Bailey to the three Dallas rapes. Bailey's DNA had recently been put into the state's offender database after he was convicted for a Houston rape case.

Details of the Houston case were not known until the case in 2010, Dallas police say. It is also remarkably similar to the 2010 case, by that time a woman was walking in the Lake Highlands area of Dallas when she passed a man acting like he was being chased.

The crime pulled a knife and tossed her into his car and she managed to get out of the vehicle before driving away.

Bailey is also accused of rape in 2010, Dallas police authorities say. They claim he hid in an apartment complex and watched her. They accused him of rape and she fled. Police arrested him after the woman saw him leaving a cigarette package containing cocaine on the ground and he took it.

Center a thoughtful, coordinated option

Continued from Page 1B

in one of three suites, which contain a sofa, television, telephone, table and chairs.

Each suite is connected to a small room for victims to meet with advocates. That room leads to a private bathroom and an examination room. The layout allows victims to complete the entire process — from checking in to arranging transportation to a safe place — in complete privacy.

Much has changed in the way sexual assault victims are treated since Carrie Emminger was raped by a stranger in her Dallas bedroom in 1983.

Emminger remembers feeling vulnerable as she waited for her exam on a gurney in the hallway at Parkland Memorial Hospital, terrified that her attacker might come after her. She believes that the security and privacy of suites at Texas Health Dallas will help victims begin the healing process.

Loren Larkin, coordinator of the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner program, says the W.W. Caruth Jr. Center for SAFE Healing was designed to make victims feel secure.

from an area supplier ... and someone would be opening that package or box, pulling out instructions and going step by step on what to do."

The treatment of sexual assault victims has improved markedly across the decades. Since 1986, more than 15 state

81.5 million from the W.W. Caruth Foundation in 2010. The Center for SAFE Healing — SAFE stands for Sexual Assault Forensic Exam — treated 55 victims in 2010 and nearly doubled that number in 2011, Larkin said. The nurses have examined about 45 victims thus far this year, and he expects that number to grow as more people learn about the program.

Nurses at the Center for SAFE Healing are trained to provide comprehensive care, from properly collecting evidence to encouraging follow-up through support groups and other services.

But the center's goals extend beyond its walls. Larkin is working to build a future sexual assault or physical harm.

'Another choice'

Until the Center for SAFE Healing opened, all sexual assault victims in Dallas could only seek treatment at Park-



MEDIA CALLS FOR MORE SANE PROGRAMS IN DALLAS – FORT WORTH METROPLEX

DALLAS COUNTY
Better access to hospital rape exams sought

One official

Only 2 sites offer forensic expertise, adding to ordeal for sexual assault victims

By SARAH PERVOISA
STAFF WRITER
pervoisa@dfw.com

Only two of Dallas County's 46 hospitals offer rape victims the state-of-the-art forensic exams that could be their best shot at preserving the evidence needed to prosecute their attackers behind bars.

After a devastating assault, victims often go to their local hospital where the necessary rape exam kits are not available. The trip to another hospital brings inconvenience, cost, an emotional and invasive exam process that can take up to four hours.

With no hospitals south of the Trinity River offering the exams, advocates fear too many victims would rather go home and try to forget than drive across town for one.

"Should you want to drive 60 minutes to talk to an obstetric and gynecologist, you'd have to get a rape kit done after you've already been raped and you'd have to take a shower, and you'd have to change your clothes and you'd have to go to a doctor's office and you'd have to be there for an hour or two," said Jennifer Adams, a spokeswoman for the Dallas County Health Department.

Adams said the health department is currently working on a plan to expand the number of hospitals that offer the exams. She said the department is currently working on a plan to expand the number of hospitals that offer the exams.

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More hospitals sought for rape exams

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

Photo for rape exams

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COUNTY'S POPULATION INCREASE CREATES NEED FOR ADDITIONAL SANE PROGRAM



Southern sector residents of Dallas call for expansion of the program to Methodist Central Hospital Dallas.

Proposal

**Methodist Central Hospital Dallas to staff and
house next SANE program
target completion date: December 2013**

Most of the current partners in the existing SANE program will be active participants with new site



Summary

SANE programs were created to address previous failings in medical evidence collection programs across the United States.

Dallas County recognized SANE programs as an improvement to existing programs that allows victims a choice in treatment.

SANE programs are expanding in response to community recognition.

QUESTIONS?