Together, we’re changing the conversation
Our Mission

To **give voice** to victims, their families, and the community; **create change** in beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors about violence; and **instill courage** for people to speak out about sexual assault.

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**KCSARC changes lives with:**

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For more information, visit [www.kcsarc.org/aboutus](http://www.kcsarc.org/aboutus)
This past year, we have seen an elevation in the public’s conversation about and understanding of sexual assault.

In our 40 years of working with victims and their families, we have never seen an atmosphere as receptive to a change in beliefs and behaviors about sexual violence as the one we are experiencing right now. You have helped us to capture this momentum and actualize meaningful change—the following accomplishments make me particularly proud.

Securing enhanced protections for victims.

In 2017, after three years of work, the Washington State legislature passed an amendment to the Sexual Assault Protection Order (SAPO) Act. This bill makes critical revisions to the process of obtaining a SAPO. In the past, victims had to return to court every two years to renew their protection order, often facing their abusers and reliving the experience. Now, these protection orders can be in place for a period of time that meets the victim’s needs, making SAPOs similar to protection orders for victims of domestic violence and stalking. Additionally, the burden of proof for renewal of a SAPO has shifted from the victim to the offender. This means that to terminate the order, the respondent must prove they are no longer a danger to the victim. Securing this change has been a top priority for us—and you helped us make significant, state-wide reform with your calls, emails, and loud statements of support.

Expanding our core services.

At KCSARC, our direct services—24-hour resource line, therapy, legal advocacy, and parent education—are the core of our work. These help individuals and families heal from abuse, hold offenders accountable, and move forward in their lives. Demand for services has increased. We are meeting demand by expanding our programs and hiring more staff with the goal of helping more people heal.

Engaging in community visibility and activism.

To continue recent conversations about sexual violence and highlight the voices of survivors, we have intentionally started effective, concrete conversations in new venues and with new audiences. I am proud of our BEING LOUD pop-up event and art installation in Westlake Park, our new opportunity for survivors to share their stories through the Amplified Stories project, and our partnership with 30 cities and the King County Council to declare April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Together, we can create real and sustained change and move forward in our vision of creating a world free of sexual violence.

In 2016, your support made it possible for KCSARC to provide direct services to over 4,000 clients and reach over 9,000 people with sexual assault prevention programming (see page 8 for more information). We thank you for the impact you’ve made in the past year, and we look forward to working together in the year to come.

Mary Ellen Stone
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Your impact in our community

This year, you stepped up and engaged in our work to end sexual violence as corporate sponsors, CourtWatch volunteers, pop-up activists, and generous supporters. Your involvement helped us bring continued visibility to the issue of sexual assault and advocate for the needs of survivors across King County and Washington State.
KCSARC staff Alix Compton, DeAnn Yamamoto, and Erin Esteban meet with Senator Patty Murray to discuss her advocacy for Spanish-speaking victims and KCSARC’s Abriendo Puertas program.

KCSARC volunteers, board members, and staff raise awareness about sexual assault with a collaborative art display at our February 2017 BEING LOUD pop-up event in Westlake Park, Seattle.

A note posted at our February 2017 BEING LOUD pop-up event in Westlake Park, Seattle.

CourtWatch volunteers attend initial training at the KCSARC offices, preparing them to monitor our King County courts and gather data that we use to better understand the experiences of victims in the legal system.

Staff of Wizards of the Coast deliver a generous assortment of toys and presents for the family of a KCSARC client who would not be able to afford Christmas gifts.

Longtime KCSARC supporters Alan Holt, Jo Anne Holt, and Fae Brooks come together at the 2017 BE LOUD Breakfast.
Sexual Assault Prevention and Education

We all want to create safer communities that are free from sexual violence. KCSARC is working towards this goal by engaging in sexual assault prevention work.

Sexual assault prevention work addresses the way culture and common beliefs excuse or ignore sexual assault and builds communities that do not tolerate violence. KCSARC’s prevention work is rooted in researched principles of effective prevention (Nation, et al 2003) as well as in the risk and protective factors for sexual assault perpetration outlined by the Centers for Disease Control.

“I was in an abusive relationship. Learning and hearing [about healthy relationships] helped me understand that I am not alone, and that it is not healthy to feel this way. I learned that respect is a big component in relationships.”

Comment from a youth participant in a prevention education lesson.

Prevention education covers topics like:

- Consent
- Healthy relationships
- The impact of gender stereotypes
- Bullying
- Harassment
- Safety online

We know that every person holds their own beliefs and is responsible for their own behavior; we also know that individuals do not live in a vacuum. Each person exists in relationships, and those relationships exist within communities, and those communities make up our wider society. Effective prevention works to impact each of those levels to create lasting change.

To deliver these programs at the individual and relationship level, prevention specialists and parent educators have reoccurring conversations with youth and parent groups to address and ultimately reduce risk factors for sexual violence perpetration. Ongoing, community-based sessions of age-appropriate education are what makes KCSARC’s prevention work impactful.

“[Consent] is a topic that is EXTREMELY important to cover. It was a wonderful conversation, engaging, interesting, and I felt safe talking and raising my hand.”

Comment from a youth participant in a prevention education lesson.

Recent prevention education groups:

- Youth Owning Unexpected Realities (Y.O.U.R. Group): A four-week session for youth covered the topics of your body, brain, feelings, and relationships—in conjunction with Sexual Assault Awareness Month.
- Parent and youth groups, offered in conjunction, in the Riverview School District: Parents and youth worked through lesson plans over four weeks with age-appropriate activities on the topics of communication styles, teen development, positive boundaries, and building healthy family relationships.
- Group sessions with youth at New Horizons, a homeless support service center in Seattle: Lessons covered bullying and harassment, gender and stereotypes, boundaries, and healthy relationships.
Creating Trauma-Informed Classrooms

Part of prevention programming at KCSARC involves developing tools and resources for teachers and community leaders so that they can facilitate sexual assault prevention even when KCSARC staff is not available.

Creating Trauma-Informed Classrooms—a digital and print resource for middle and high school educators—began with one student’s inspiring efforts.

After supporting a friend who had experienced sexual assault, Bridget Yule identified the need for more resources and awareness around sexual violence. In her junior year of high school, Bridget began facilitating consent workshops with her peers and recognized that teachers and school staff were in a unique position to support student survivors.

Bridget knew there was more to be done to create trauma-informed spaces at her school—but she needed support to make these changes happen.

Working closely with KCSARC, Bridget helped plan a training for teachers and school staff on the topic of sexual violence. The goal of this training was to educate faculty on helpful responses to disclosures of sexual assault and on ways to make classrooms more accessible to students who had experienced trauma.

Motivated by positive feedback received from attendees of this training, KCSARC wrote and produced the Creating Trauma-Informed Classrooms resource. The set of cards, and accompanying poster, are intended to assist middle and high school educators in addressing sexual assault within the school environment.

Content includes:
- How can I support a student who has experienced sexual assault?
- What are my responsibilities as a mandated reporter?
- How can I create trauma-informed spaces for all students?

These resources are available for free on our website at www.kcsarc.org/trauma-informed-classrooms.
A shout-out to our 2016 individual donors

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(Above Left): King County Councilmembers, sexual assault partner agencies, and KCSARC staff declare April 2017 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month across King County.

(Above Right): KCSARC board treasurer Mark Lester and Alisha Mark, with a combined 24 years of KCSARC support, attend the 2017 BE LOUD Breakfast.
Legal advocacy: 
Legal advocacy assisted 1,953 victims navigate the complex and challenging legal system.

Trauma-specific therapy: 
Life-changing therapy helped 397 children, teens, and adults recover from trauma.

24-Hour Resource Line: 
24/7 crisis support, information, and referrals reached 2,095 Resource Line callers.

Support and Revenue
Private & In-Kind Contributions; Events $1,122,919
Government Grants & Contracts $3,118,106
United Way $60,278
Fee for Service $289,294
Misc. Revenue $10,114
Total Revenue $4,600,711

Expense
Program Services $3,296,016
Management & General $585,776
Fundraising $668,808
Total Expense $4,550,600

Reinvested in 2017 Programs & Services $50,111
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