

Sexual Assault Forensic Examination (SAFE) Commission

Mingo County Service Plan

Local Board/SART Overview

To meet SAFE Commission standards, Mingo County has formalized a coordinated response through the creation of a Local board convened specifically to meet the SAFE Commission guidelines. Members of this local coordinated response collaboration include:

- Mingo County Prosecuting Attorney
- Mingo County Assistant Prosecuting Attorney
- Victim Advocate from Mingo County Prosecuting Attorney's Office
- Sheriff of Mingo County
- Chief Field Deputy of Mingo County Sheriff's Office
- Victim Advocate from Mingo County Sheriff's Office
- CONTACT Rape Crisis Center, Executive Director
- Mingo County Sexual Assault Victim Advocate
- Logan County Sexual Assault Victim Advocate
- Logan Regional Medical Center SANE
- CAC Director
- Child Advocate
- DHHR Social Services Supervisor
- Director of Mingo County 911 / EMA

The local board/SART meets/plans to meet quarterly with the intent to:

- ☒ Share information and resources
- ☒ Identify gaps in the service delivery system
- ☒ Increase awareness on issues of sexual assault and stalking in the community
- ☒ Increase victim and community safety
- ☒ Develop professional relationships and an understanding of varying roles and responsibilities of first responders
- ☒ Develop, implement, and review county protocol to meet legislative requirements of the SAFE Commission

ADVOCACY PROTOCOL

OVERVIEW

The following seven advocacy services meet core service standards. The following services exist in our county (**please check all services that apply**).

- ☒ 24/7 advocacy, support, and accompaniment during the medical forensic exam, law enforcement investigations and court proceedings
- ☒ Information for victims about reporting/not reporting to law enforcement
- ☒ Crisis intervention and/or emotional support to victims and their families
- ☒ Referrals and coordinated services with other agencies
- ☒ Support for victims through the criminal justice system
- ☒ Replacement clothing for victims after medical forensic exams, if needed
- ☒ Protection of victim privacy and confidentiality

Advocacy services in our county are:

Services for adolescent and/or adult victims are provided by CONTACT (Rape Crisis Center), which will be providing services to Mingo County.

Adult/Adolescent Sexual Assault Victim Presents at Logan Regional Medical Center

Medical Screen Exam; Activate Advocacy Protocol

1. Emergency personnel shall contact SANE nurse or the designated representative (304-831-1101);
2. Inquire of victim if medical care is needed. If so, treat accordingly. If not, inform victim of forensic exam and law enforcement report/non-report options;
3. SANE nurse shall contact law enforcement (911) only in mandatory reporting cases (also report incapacitated adult victims to Adult Protective Services and report adolescent victims up to age 18 to CPS by calling 911 and dispatching the on-call CPS worker;
4. Pursuant to the victim's wishes, contact law enforcement and perform forensic exam;
5. CONTACT Advocacy Protocol – MINGO County – contact sexual assault advocate at (606-525-5584); sexual assault advocate will contact the law enforcement-prosecutor's office Advocate, 304-235-0350 or 304-235-0300, as

needed appropriate to the situation; (advocate will be accompanied by a law enforcement officer if deemed necessary);

6. LMRC/SANE provides medical facility exam if victim requests completion. If no, continue with advocacy protocol;
7. Administer sexual assault exam collection kit;
8. If no forensic exam, activate medical forensic exam/transportation protocols;
9. If exam completed, activate SAECK processing protocol;
10. If a referral is needed to the CAC, contact child advocate at 304-792-6261;
11. If the victim pursues criminal prosecution, the prosecuting attorney protocol will take effect and the prosecutor's advocate, 304-235-0350, will proceed with the victim through the prosecution process after criminal charges have been filed.

Adult/Adolescent Sexual Assault Victim Presents to Law Enforcement

in Person or by Telephone

1. Inquire of victim, "are you safe?"
2. If yes, inquire of victim whether they need emergency medical care;
3. If via telephone and no medical care is necessary, dispatch law enforcement officer;
4. If medical care is requested, contact 911;
5. If medical care is not requested, law enforcement shall inform victim of medical forensic exam and law enforcement report/non-report options;
6. If victim requests forensic exam, activate advocacy protocol; contact CONTACT Rape Crisis Center, Mingo County Sexual Assault Advocate at 606-525-5584; and medical forensic exam protocol, Hospital SANE Nurse, 304-831-1101, and transportation protocol;
7. If exam completed, activate SAECK processing protocol;
8. If a referral is needed to the CAC, contact child advocate, 304-792-6261;
9. If the victim pursues criminal prosecution, the prosecuting attorney protocol will take effect and the prosecutor's advocate, 304-235-0350, will proceed with the victim through the prosecution process after criminal charges have been filed.

Adult/Adolescent Sexual Assault Victim Presents for Sexual Assault Advocacy Services

1. Victim presents at sexual assault services agency (CAC);
2. Inquire of victim, "are you safe?"
3. If yes, inquire whether medical treatment is required;
4. If no, dispatch law enforcement; activate advocacy protocol at 606-525-5584, Mingo County CONTACT sexual assault victim advocate;
5. If medical care is required, call 911;
6. If exam is completed, activate SAECK processing protocol;
7. If a referral is needed to the CAC, contact child advocate, 304-792-6261;
8. If the victim pursues criminal prosecution, the prosecuting attorney protocol will take effect and the prosecutor's advocate, 304-235-0350, will proceed with the victim through the prosecution process after criminal charges have been filed.

It is anticipated that the CONTACT sexual assault victim advocate will respond and advocacy services will be provided within one hour of dispatching.

First responders will be informed of this Advocacy Protocol by:

An annual session held in April of the SAFE Team will be held by the Prosecutor's Office to discuss the SAFE Plan, identify service gaps, and adopt any modifications if necessary. Protocols and materials discussed will be provided to the SAFE Team. The designated representative thereof will be held responsible for disbursing such materials among their agency/department electronically as well as hard copies at an accessible location for the staff. The SAFE-designated representative will be responsible for providing each agency/department (whether present or absent for the information session) with these materials within 7 days of the annual session electronically and by hard copy. The SAFE Team designated representative will disburse these materials annually within 30 days of the annual session to account for refresher training. The SAFE Team will work with First Responders to add the plan to all onboarding procedures.

Phone number of Rape Crisis Center to Activate Protocol: 606-525-5584

MEDICAL FORENSIC PROTOCOL

OVERVIEW

For medical forensic services for adolescent and/or adult victims within our county, services are provided by a medical facility located in a neighboring county:

Logan Regional Medical Center
20 Hospital Drive
Logan, WV 25601
304-831-1101

- Medical forensic exams are provided by SANEs.
- SANEs are available on-call 24/7.

Services are provided via a letter of agreement with a medical facility from another county. Forensic exams are not provided at Williamson Memorial Hospital.

First responders will be informed of this Medical Protocol by:

An annual session held in April of the SAFE Team will be held by the Prosecutor's Office to discuss the SAFE Plan, identify service gaps, and adopt any modifications if necessary. Protocols and materials discussed will be provided to the SAFE Team. The designated representative thereof will be held responsible for disbursing such materials among their agency/department electronically as well as hard copies at an accessible location for the staff. The SAFE-designated representative will be responsible for providing each agency/department (whether present or absent for the information session) with these materials within 7 days of the annual session electronically and by hard copy. The SAFE Team designated representative will disburse these materials annually within 30 days of the annual session to account for refresher training. The SAFE Team will work with First Responders to add the plan to all onboarding procedures.

Phone number to Activate Medical Forensic Protocol:

Logan Regional Medical Center: 304-831-1101

TRANSPORTATION PROTOCOL

OVERVIEW

- The SAFE Commission requires that this transportation protocol must include the following four core components:
 1. Accessible transportation, including the ability to transport victims with disabilities;
 2. Transportation to and from the medical forensic exam regardless of the victim's ability to pay;
 3. Plan for victim confidentiality; and
 4. Plan to return the victim to his or her point of origin (or an agreed upon safe place) after the medical forensic examination.

When a sexual assault victim in Mingo County requires a medical forensic examination, and has no transportation to a facility providing such services, the following procedures will be activated when a sexual assault is reported:

1. 911 Call With Injuries.

If a sexual assault victim calls 911 needing emergent medical care, EMS and the appropriate law enforcement agency will both respond.

- EMS will transport the victim (at no cost to the victim) to the appropriate medical facility: Logan Regional Medical Center.
- IF the victim chooses to initiate a police investigation, the responding Law Enforcement Officer will document and report the incident. Law Enforcement (LE) will stay at the medical facility, if necessary, for the safety of the victim, or return when the medical forensic exam is completed to transport the victim to a safe location if needed.
- IF the victim chooses NOT to initiate a police investigation, LE will determine the immediate safety and security of the victim, provide contact information should the victim decide to make a report at a later date, and transport the victim to a safe location if needed following the medical forensic exam.
- Victims with disabilities will be transported to a safe location by EMS at no cost to the victim.

2. 911 Call With NO injuries:

If a sexual assault victim calls 911 or contacts a Law Enforcement Agency to report a sexual assault, and is safe and does NOT need emergent medical care, the appropriate law enforcement agency will be contacted and proceed to the identified location. The victim will be informed by the Law Enforcement officer of the medical forensic exam and Law Enforcement report/non-report options.

- IF the victim chooses to have a medical forensic exam and initiate a police investigation and does not have transportation, Law Enforcement will provide transportation to the appropriate medical facility: Logan Regional Medical Center. The responding Law Enforcement Officer will document and report the incident. Law Enforcement will stay at the medical facility, if necessary for the safety of the victim, or return when the medical forensic exam is completed, to transport the victim to a safe location if needed.
- IF the victim chooses NOT to initiate a police investigation and does not have transportation for the medical forensic exam, Law Enforcement will respond and provide transportation to the appropriate medical facility: Logan Regional Medical Center. The responding Law Enforcement Officer will determine the immediate safety and security of the victim and provide contact information should the victim decide to make a report at a later date. Law Enforcement will return when the medical forensic exam is completed to transport the victim to a safe location.
- Victims with disabilities will be transported to a safe location by EMS at NO cost to the victim.

3. Call to CONTACT Rape Crisis Center.

If a sexual assault victim contacts CONTACT Rape Crisis Center after a recent assault, the advocate will inform them of the medical forensic exam and Law Enforcement report/non-report options. IF the victim has emergent medical needs and/or requests to have a medical forensic exam but has no transportation, the advocate will guide the victim to call 911. This will then activate one of the protocols outlined in numbers 1 and 2 above.

First responders will be informed of this Transportation Protocol by:

An annual session held in April of the SAFE Team will be held by the Prosecutor's Office to discuss the SAFE Plan, identify service gaps, and adopt any modifications if necessary. Protocols and materials discussed will be provided to the SAFE Team. The designated representative thereof will be held responsible for disbursing such materials among their agency/department electronically as well as hard copies at an accessible location for the staff. The SAFE-designated representative will be responsible for providing each agency/department (whether present or absent for the information session) with these materials within 7 days of the annual session electronically and by hard copy. The SAFE Team designated representative will disburse these materials annually within 30 days of the annual session to account for refresher training. The SAFE Team will work with First Responders to add the plan to all onboarding procedures.

Phone number to Activate Transportation Protocol:

Mingo County 911