



July 2015

Newsletter

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### **Board of Directors**

#### **Board Officers**

Chairperson

Adela Hathaway

### **A Message from Lui**



In our April Newsletter, we highlighted the 43 Days Initiative, which extends the Statute of Limitations from 4 years to 8 years for victims of sexual assault in Florida, had passed the House Civil Justice Subcommittee. The Act (HB 133), was recently signed by Governor Rick Scott. Effective July 1, 2015, victims have 8 years to come forward to report a sexual assault. Florida had ranked among the lowest states in the country when it came to the window for reporting sex crimes. This is a major victory for victims of sexual assault and allows additional time to seek justice.

[Read More](#)

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### **Sexual Assault Summer Spike**

With an alarming number of 32 cases in the month of June, our Victim Advocates and Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners have been extremely busy providing critical care to our

### Vice-Chairperson

Craig Swygert

### Treasurer

Ana Fernandez

### Secretary

Jacob Stuart, Jr.

### **Board Members**

Allen Johnson

Amy Bosley

Bridget Keefe

Commissioner Scott Boyd

Major Nancy Brown

Karol Lucken, PhD

Kelly Trace

LeeAnne Feagan


### **VSC Founder**

Mary I. Johnson

### **Quick Links**

Like us on **Facebook** 

Follow us on **twitter**

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View our profile on **Linked in**

community.

When a victim arrives at the Sexual Assault Treatment Center (SATC), they are often required to relinquish all of their clothing items in order to assist detectives, as they may contain evidence. VSC provides essential items needed by the victim including new clothing, shoes, and hygiene products. Our staff makes every effort to make the victim feel as comfortable and safe as possible. With the high number of cases, we are asking for help from our community.



To help, please visit our [website](#) and consider making a [donation](#). A Dollar-a-Day for one month will provide a Care Package for a victim of sexual assault.

We can't do it without you. [Give TODAY!](#)

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## **Volunteers from BB&T Renovate VSC's Confidential Sexual Assault Treatment Center**

Our friends at BB&T have been hard at work at our confidential forensic exam site. Not only did they sponsor a makeover of the facility as part of BB&T's Lighthouse Project, they rolled up their sleeves and put in some sweat equity to make improvements to the forensic site. Volunteers painted the kids area, living room and the Law Enforcement room. They also assembled new desks for our Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners to use when working with a victim.

View our videos on 

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## **Wish List**

Gift Cards in \$5-\$10 increments  
T-Shirts (Large and XL)  
Elastic Waist Pants in all sizes  
Sports Bras  
Flip Flops (6,7,8)  
Office Supplies  
Bus Passes  
Children's DVDs  
Children's Books

[For our full list of top needs, visit our website!](#)

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## **A Dollar a Day: Don't Forget to Donate!**

Please consider giving a Dollar-a-Day. Your dollars go directly to supporting victims. It means hope, healing, and an opportunity to move forward for a victim of sexual assault.



"I love the new look of our facility. We are so grateful to our friends at BB&T for the work they did in transforming our space into a welcoming atmosphere of caring!"...Judy Bednar, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner

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## **Guest Blogger- Sergeant Rich Mankewich Major Crime/Sex Crimes, Orange County Sheriff's Office**

For years, law enforcement officers have never been fully trained to recognize and address the psychological and emotional trauma associated with a sexual assault. During initial interviews, victims often are inconsistent, show little emotion and are unable to provide detailed information when describing the sexual assault they have suffered. Investigators often mistake these inconsistencies and lack of emotions as either lies or attempts to cover up what has really occurred. Learning how trauma affects the brain during a sexual assault is the first step for an investigator. [Read More](#)

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## **Survivor Story**

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## **Education**

Learn how you can make our community safer! Schedule a personalized training with our Outreach and Prevention Specialist!

You could learn about:

- Sexual Assault
- Stalking
- How Men Can Prevent Sexual Violence (Sensitivity Training)
- Crime Prevention
- Identity Theft
- Internet Safety
- Personal Safety Planning

[Click here](#) to setup your training today!

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When Jane (name changed for confidentiality) found herself in crisis in her marriage. She had no one to turn to and was feeling hopeless. She called the Sexual Assault Hotline and disclosed an incidence of child sexual abuse which occurred more than 15 years ago. Jane was distraught with guilt, shame, and confusion and the Victim Advocate helped to normalize her feelings and connect her with multiple important resources to work on her recovery. The hotline provided a safe, confidential and non-judgmental place for Jane to disclose her sexual assault for the first time.

Not all victims contacting the 24- Hour Sexual Assault Hotline are victims of a recent sexual assault. Jane's story is a common one. Our Victim Advocates understand that child sexual abuse often impacts intimacy, trusting relationships, and security. The effects often carry into a future relationship, and in this case, Jane's marriage.

Do you have a story to tell? [Please email us!](#)

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## **Screening of "The Hunting Ground" and Panel Discussion on Campus Sexual Assault at ScholarCon**

During the last week of June, over 1,500 campus student leaders from across the nation gathered in Orlando for ScholarCon, a four-day conference held by the National Society of Collegiate Scholars.

This year, ScholarCon organizers made it a point to discuss the issue of campus sexual assault with the screening of "The Hunting Ground," a new documentary highlighting the epidemic of sexual violence at colleges and universities nationwide, and a panel discussion on campus sexual assault.



"This is not an issue that is going to go away overnight so we need young people to stand up and say they care about it and they want to change things," said Rebecca Kaplan with the "It's On Us" Campaign.

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## Mark Your Calendars

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### Lunch & Learn

Wednesday - July 29, 2015

12:00pm - 1:00pm

RSVP by calling (407) 254-9415 or e-mail [Rhonda Wilson](#).

Held the Last Wednesday of Every Month

By attending, you will learn about our history, mission, services, goals, and ways to get involved. To attend our Monthly Lunch & Learn, you must RSVP. Space is limited and lunch will be provided. We hope to see you there!

## Victim Service Center of Central Florida

### Contact Information

Hours: Monday - Friday (8AM-5PM) | Office: (407) 254-9415

2111 E Michigan St, Suite 210

Orlando, Florida 32806

24-Hour Sexual Assault Hotline: (407) 497-6701

Toll Free: 1(866) 757-2046

