

# Crook County Family Violence

Office and 24-Hotline:  
307-283-2415

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PO Box 128

Sundance, WY 82729

<https://crook-county-family-violence.constantcontacts.com/>

The mission of Crook County Family Violence and Sexual Assault Services Inc. (CCFV/SAS) is to break the cycle of domestic violence and sexual assault. CCFV/SAS will provide safe refuge and supportive services that educate and empower victims and their children. CCFV/SAS will advocate social change that protects a person's right to live a life free from abuse.

# Winter Newsletter

## What's Inside

Winter Awareness Months and updates, April Awareness Month reminders, COVID-19 update, and a message from the Executive Director.



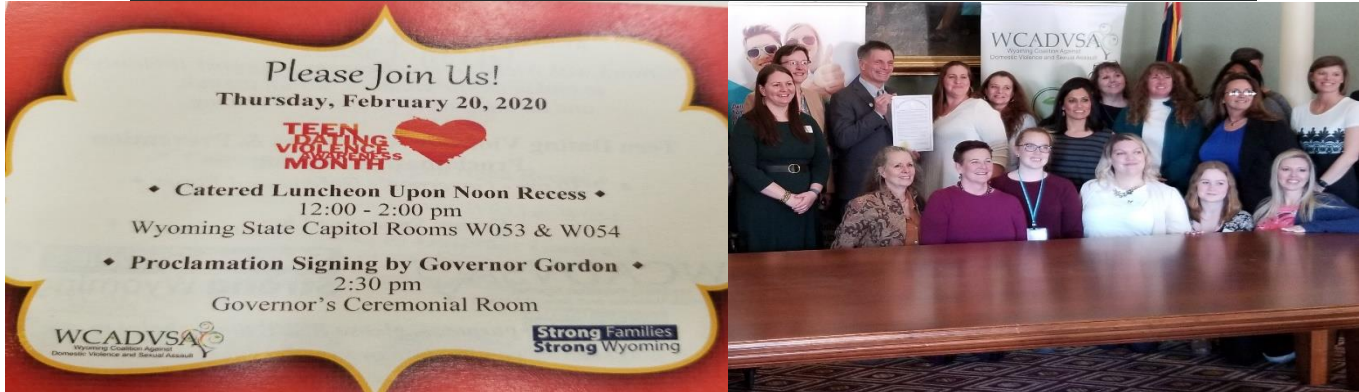
Like us on Facebook to check out important links and messages from us! Also, take a look at our new website. We have added a blog, so be sure to check back frequently for new ones!



January was [National Human Trafficking Awareness Month](#) and [National Stalking Awareness Month](#). To raise awareness for these, we decorated the courthouse display case located directly beside the courtroom. We also asked those in the community to participate in wearing blue for Human Trafficking.

February was [National Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month](#). To help raise awareness, we asked the schools in Crook County to participate in 'School Announcement Day' where students read off a statement during the morning announcements regarding ending Teen Dating Violence. Community members were encouraged to wear orange also to help raise awareness for Teen Dating Violence.

### **Governor Gordan signing "Teen Dating Violence" Proclamation**



Getting information out to our youth is somewhat challenging. Where could we get information to all junior and senior high school students? Well, they all have to go to the bathroom sometime!! Sooooo, we got permission from the schools to provide a little bathroom reading material; we call it 'Bathroom Reads.' We make informative posters for teenagers that are posted to the high schools bathroom stalls. It provides the students a safe space to read up on domestic violence, sexual assault and consent, understanding stalking behavior, human trafficking, and bullying. CCFV contact information is situated on the posters, which allows them to become informed and gives them access to resources in the safety of their own privacy should they need it.

Maddy took on the ever-changing task of creating the agency website. The new website provides some new features we think you might enjoy. Head over to the website:

<https://crook-county-family-violence.constantcontactsites.com/>. The newest feature is our blog posts. Each post has been made with the intent to inform and raise awareness for various topics regarding personal violence. Be sure to check back regularly to see new posts. If you are ever interested in writing your own post for the blog, email our Prevention Coordinator, Maddy at: [17stoddardm@gmail.com](mailto:17stoddardm@gmail.com)

## **How can you help?**

**On April 7<sup>th</sup>, join us in wearing teal in honor of [Sexual Assault Awareness](#). Send us your pictures and tell your friends and family to join!**

**On [Denim Day](#), April 29<sup>th</sup>, join us in wearing your favorite pair of jeans or denim jacket in honor of Sexual Assault Awareness. Send us your pictures and tell your friends and family to join!**

# Sexual Assault Awareness Month



Also, watch for our Facebook  
campaign-  
“Raising Awareness for Sexual  
Assault.”  
There will be a new post every  
day!



Check out NSVRC, CDSS, and  
childwelfare.gov for more  
information on how you can help  
raise awareness on sexual assault and  
child abuse!



April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month, a time to recognize that we each can play a part in promoting the social and emotional well-being of children and families in communities.



**April is Child Abuse Prevention Month, a time when communities are encouraged to increase awareness and provide education to families to prevent child abuse and neglect.**

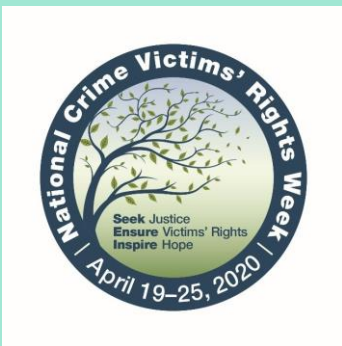
**Did you know that nationally there are millions of children who are abused each year! On average, 5 children die each day due to abuse or neglect, and over 65,000 are sexual abuse cases.**

**In Crook County, according to Clint Hanes, Wyoming Department of Family Services Public Information Officer reports in 2019 there were 12 substantiated cases in Crook County.**

**Our agency, along with the Crook County Attorney Victim Witness Coordinator, will be doing our part by placing “Blue Pinwheels” and ribbons throughout Crook County. The ribbons and pinwheels can be seen at the Crook County Court House Gazebo, Hulett City Park, Pine Haven City Hall Gazebo, and Moorcroft City Park. The Blue Pinwheels represents awareness. Please wear a blue ribbons throughout the month of April and show your support in ending child abuse.**



# April 19- 25 is National Crime Victims' Rights Week



Whereas the victims' rights movement has resulted in the passage of laws at the local, state, and federal levels that established essential rights for victims;

Whereas crime victims' rights acts passed here in Wyoming and at the federal level have provided victims with ways to participate meaningfully throughout the criminal justice process;

Whereas the rights of crime victims are best protected when all participants in the criminal justice process-not only victims- are appropriately educated about victims' rights;

Whereas supporting the victims of crime is crucial to the US justice system because our support honors the experiences of victims and allows them to find autonomy and empowerment through achieving self-defined goals;

Whereas we must help victims access the justice, assistance, and support they need to rebuild their lives;

Whereas advocacy by and for victims of crime is itself a form of seeking justice, no less than justice sought in the courts;

Whereas the accomplishments of the victims' rights movement-achieved through compassion and collaboration, and built on the courageous advocacy of individual victims and their families across the country-inspire in us hope for future progress and greater healing;

Whereas we are determined to respond to crime and violence by helping victims find not only support, recovery, and justice, but also a sense of hope for their future;

Whereas National Crime Victims' Rights Week provides an opportunity to recommit to ensuring that accessible, appropriate, and trauma-informed services are offered to all victims of crime;

And whereas Crook County Attorney's Victim Witness Program is hereby dedicated to strengthening victims and survivors in the aftermath of crime, building resilience in our communities and our victim service providers, and bringing hope and healing to all victims and survivors.

-Dave Osborne

Crook County Attorney's Office Victim Witness Coordinator  
307-283-1090

## Crook County Family Violence and Crook County Attorney Victim Witness Volunteers 2019

### April is “Volunteer Appreciation Month”

The work, our volunteers, do to support Crook County Family Violence (CCFV) is critical to ensure we can assist as many survivors as possible in Crook County. CCFV volunteers have been volunteering since 1984. Volunteers assist staff and victims by providing services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Legal advocacy, childcare, transportation, or lending a listening ear are just the beginning of an extensive list of services volunteers have provided throughout the years. No one service is more important than the other because they all create the same effect for the survivor: it's another person walking along their side to a life free of abuse. Power in numbers gives all of us the courage to keep moving forward. Survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault are no different to that drive when they are encouraged by others.

Providing individual services to survivors is a significant portion that volunteers at CCFV do, but there's another piece that's just as important: joining forces with thousands of others. CCFV volunteers and staff are proud to be a part of a movement based solely on one core belief that everyone deserves to live a life free of abuse. The best way to celebrate this movement and add more members to the force is through community outreach events. Volunteers at CCFV donate their time in the creation and hosting of these public events. Offering information materials, trainings, and making presentations to help send the message that violence is unacceptable in our communities! Community events create a safe space to openly communicate with one another, the opportunity to learn ways everyone can help victims of violence, and one of the most significant ways we can empower our survivors.

Since July 2019, Volunteers at CCFV have donated over 3,269 hours to our community. In a field that's difficult to face, CCFV is extremely fortunate to have such amazing volunteers donating their time throughout the year collaborating with staff to one day end domestic and sexual violence. We would like to thank our wonderful volunteers for not only the time they have given but also for the passion and commitment they show to our organization and our mission. We could not do everything that we do without them!



Kayleigh Gould- CCF/SAS Volunteer Coordinator

“Volunteers are the Roots that make the movement Grow”

COVID-19  
Update  
for  
Crook  
County  
Family  
Violence  
Office

While Crook County Family Violence and Sexual Assault Services acknowledges that the measures taken to protect public safety and health are necessary, we urgently need the public to know that we are not suspending any of our services for victims of violence. Victims are already navigating abuse and violence daily; abuse can escalate and leave victims feeling isolated, fearful, and without options.

Crook County Family Violence and Sexual Assault Services encourage you to contact us in any way that is safest for you. Advocates are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, by calling 307-283-2415. Advocates can also be contacted by email [ccfvdirector@gmail.com](mailto:ccfvdirector@gmail.com) or [ccfvkayleigh@gmail.com](mailto:ccfvkayleigh@gmail.com). Based on the health recommendations from the CDC to practice 'social distancing', any face to face interactions will be done by appointment.

Thank you for your understanding during this time of uncertainty.

Sandy Stevens- Executive Director





## A message from the Executive Director



Dear Friends,

April is National Volunteer Appreciation Month- a perfect time to express our heartfelt appreciation to all our amazing volunteers. The amazing work our 22 volunteers do for CCFV/SAS cannot be valued enough.

Last year, with the support of our board of directors, volunteers, donors, and community partners, we were able to provide over 352 shelter bed nights in our Transitional Housing Unit and 12 Emergency Shelter Nights in area shelters and hotels. Our wonderful volunteers at STAR communication answered numerous calls to our confidential 24-hour crisis intervention hotline; staff developed over 35 safety plans and provided well over 1,200 hours of supportive services to children, youth, and adults. And through our Prevention Education initiatives, more than 400 people learned how to recognize the signs of intimate partner violence. This has been accomplished through Law Enforcement training, Freshman Impact, and Community Awareness events throughout 2019.

While it's hard to accept that intimate partner violence affects so many of our neighbors in Crook County, we know there is hope. Hope for a better tomorrow that is made possible from working together to end violence of all forms in Crook County.

Moving forward, CCFV/SAS Board of Directors, Staff, and Volunteers remain focused on our mission to advocate social change. CCFV/SAS has been in existence since 1984, and this community continues to come together to empower our victims as they take their first steps toward a life free of violence. And because violence is a community problem, we know that our community also holds the key to the solutions. All of us can make a difference!

On behalf of all the victims who have been given the chance at a better future because of your support- THANK YOU! The impact you're making in the fight against intimate partner violence can be seen in the faces of our victims and their children who are no longer afraid to go to sleep at night.

Thank you, Crook County, for making our community such a great place to work and raise our children. Empowerment starts with each and every one of us...

With much gratitude,

Sandy





## **County Family Violence and Sexual Assault Services, Inc.**

### **Staff**

**Sandy Stevens- Executive Director**

**Kayleigh G.- Advocate/Volunteer Coordinator**

**Maddy S.- Prevention Coordinator**

### **Board of Directors**

**Phil Dinsmoor- Chairman**

**Kristen Clausen- Vice Chair**

**Harry Stordahl- Treasurer**

**Myrna Tesch- Secretary**

**Ginger Schoffstall- Advisor**

**Danyell Brewer- Advisor**

Crook County Family Violence and Sexual Assault Services Inc., is sponsored by the Office of the Attorney General's Office, Division of Victim Services. This project is supported by VOCA Award No. 2018-VA- GX-0016.

CCFV/SAS does not discriminate against program participants and beneficiaries on the basis of race, gender, sex, age, sexual orientation, handicap (dis)ability, social class, economic class, education, marital status, religious affiliation, residency, HIV status, national origin or any other basis.