

November 7, 2018 SART meeting

We opened with a brief overview of Walk A Mile. It ended up being a small but successful event. We had 18 registered walkers, and, thanks to the generosity of donors and sponsors, the awareness event was able to raise \$994.90! Thanks so much to the Victims Assistance Program, Title IX, and Legal Aid for setting up resource tables at the event!

Teresa Stire did a great overview of services provided by the Carruth Center. Due to the fact this was a small meeting with several regular members unable to attend, we plan to do this overview of services again at a future meeting. In summary, the Carruth Center operates on a short-term model of care. Most students typically reach a resolution in 4 to 6 sessions but a total of 12 scheduled sessions are provided per year with tuition. Additionally, students have unlimited access to the 24-hour hotline and may come during drop-in hours for visits that do not count toward the 12 sessions. Students who require long-term care are likely to be referred to community therapists, though it is possible for them to receive a continuation of services from the Carruth Center. Additional sessions are \$25 for 60-minute therapy sessions.

Monongalia county has been selected to start a trial run where SAFE kits are sent by the hospital directly to the state crime lab. David Miller from the state crime lab has reached out and plans to attend the next SART meeting to discuss this further, but Detective Hasley was able to give us some information about this project. Due to the volume of SAFE kits that have been performed but never tested, the SAFE commission is looking for more effective ways of ensuring evidence is tested. Police are currently responsible for picking up the kits from the hospitals and sending them to the crime lab; Ruby has been chosen as the test site for sending kits directly to the state lab, while police are being trained to pick up only the paperwork associated with the kits. David Miller will be at the December 5 SART meeting to discuss the background information and concerns associated with this project, but here are a few potential concerns that were brought up:

- Chain of custody
- Will the sudden flow of kits back up the lab?
- How to keep kits from receiving priority processing when the case is a question of consent?