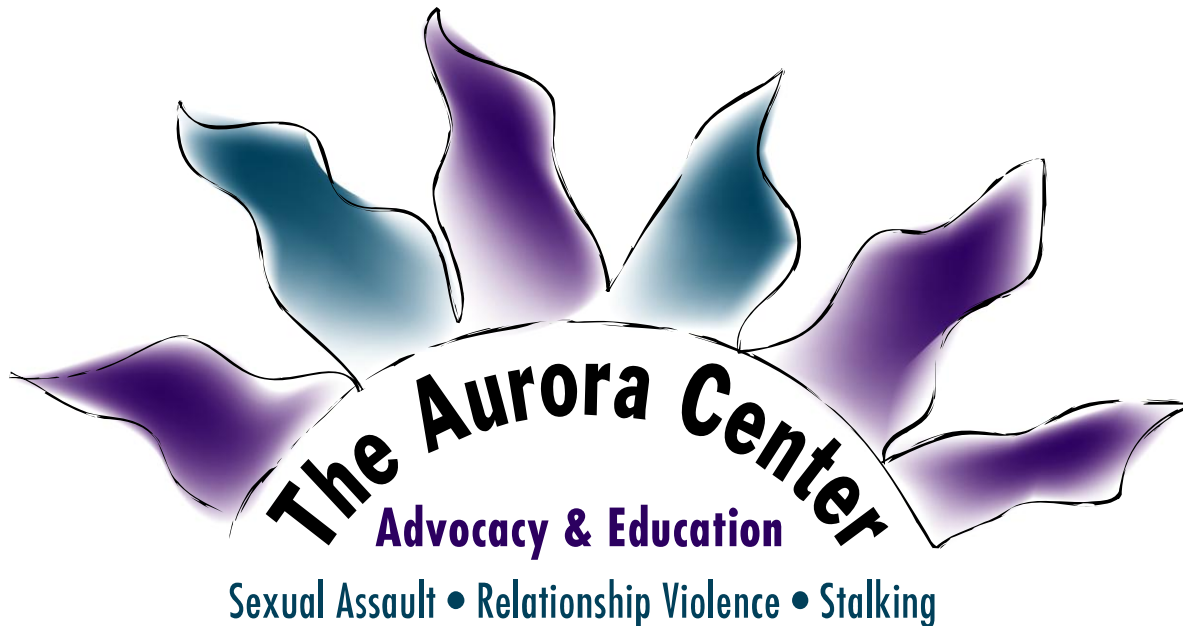


The Aurora Center for Advocacy & Education
Annual Report FY2011
(July 1, 2010– June 30, 2011)



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Office for Student Affairs
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Mission Statement	Page 3
Old Mission Statement	
New Mission Statement	
University Policy	Page 4-5
Sexual Assault/Relationship Violence	
Client Services	Pages 6-11
Direct Services Delivery Model	
Total Clients Served	
Reason for Contact	
Restraining Orders	
New Client Contact per Month	
Location of Incident	
Gender of Clients & Perpetrators	
Sexual Orientation of Clients	
Race/Ethnicity of Clients	
University Affiliation of Clients & Perpetrators	
Perpetrator's Relationship to Client	
Education and Training	Page 12
FY 2011 Highlights	Page 13-14
Domestic Violence Awareness Month	
Sexual Assault Awareness Month	
Men Against Gender Violence	
DOJ Grant	
Student Service Fees	
Sexual Assault Prevention Recommendations	
Recognition Event	
Grant Awards and Gifts	Page 14
Volunteer Recognition	Page 15
Volunteers	Page 16
Staff	Page 17

OLD MISSION STATEMENT

(JULY 1, 2010 –JUNE 24, 2011)

The Aurora Center for Advocacy and Education at the University of Minnesota is committed to the belief that all people have the right to live free of violence and of the fear of violence. We recognize that sexual assault, sexual harassment, relationship violence, and stalking are not isolated incidents, but rather the individual expressions of a pervasive cultural attitude that tolerates violence. We believe that sexual and relationship violence can best be addressed through social action, education, and advocacy. The Aurora Center for Advocacy and Education was formed to:

- Ensure the delivery of quality services to all segments of the University of Minnesota community by The Aurora Center and other offices that the victim/survivor may need to contact for assistance;
- Ensure the inclusion of the wide diversity of people of the University as staff, volunteers, and constituents of The Aurora Center;
- Ensure effective communication between The Aurora Center and other people who are concerned about sexual and relationship violence;
- Eliminate, eradicate, or in the very least, identify and reduce the existence of violence against women and other forms of oppression at the University of Minnesota and of the community as a whole.
- Provide meaningful volunteer and leadership opportunities to the students who join in this mission as volunteers.

REVISED MISSION STATEMENT

(AS OF JUNE 25, 2011)

To serve all victims/survivors/concerned people of sexual and relationship violence at the University of Minnesota.

The mission encompasses these goals:

- Deliver free and confidential services to everyone at the University of Minnesota.
- Build partnerships between The Aurora Center and other departments on campus.
- Create awareness about sexual violence and oppression at the University of Minnesota.
- Provide meaningful volunteer and leadership opportunities.

We envision a campus where:

- 1) Sexual violence is unacceptable;
- 2) Victims/survivors/concerned people receive the advocacy, compassion, and support they deserve from friends, family, the campus community, as well as from the medical, legal, and criminal justice systems;
- 3) Students, faculty, staff, and other stakeholders help us challenge the institutions, practices and policies, and systems that promote sexism, racism, heterosexism, classism, ageism, religious oppression, and the oppression of people with disabilities which are among the root causes of sexual violence.

UNIVERSITY POLICY

The University of Minnesota is committed to the policy that all persons shall have equal access to its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, or sexual orientation. In adhering to this policy, the University abides by the Minnesota Human Rights Act, Minnesota Statute Ch. 363; by the Federal Civil Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. 2000e; by the requirements of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; by Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973; by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990; by Executive Order 11246, as amended; by 38 U.S.C. 2012, the Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Assistance Act of 1972, as amended; and by other applicable statutes and regulations relating to equality of opportunity. Inquiries regarding compliance may be directed to Director, Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, 419 Morrill Hall, 100 Church St. SE, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN 55455, (612) 624-9547. This publication is available in alternative formats upon request. Please call The Aurora Center at (612) 626-2929. The Aurora Center is wheelchair accessible.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA SEXUAL ASSAULT/RELATIONSHIP VIOLENCE POLICY

(Academic/Administrative Policy 2.3.6)

Statement Summary

The University's full policy statement can be accessed on the web at:

www.fpd.finop.umn.edu/groups/ppd/documents/policy/Sexual_Assault_Pol.cfm

Sexual assault and relationship violence are prohibited at the University of Minnesota. Sexual assault and relationship violence, including threats of sexual assault and related relationship violence, are attacks not only on a person's body, but also on the person's dignity, and are not tolerated. To foster a community free from sexual assault and relationship violence, the University provides reporting options, including the police department; victim/survivor assistance; internal mechanisms for discipline and dispute resolution; prevention training; and other related services.

Reason for Policy

As a University and as a community, we strive to assure the safety and respect the dignity of each student, staff, and faculty member. While the Board of Regents' Policy on Sexual Harassment prohibits conduct covered by this administrative policy, this policy establishes procedures for responding to incidents involving sexual assault and relationship violence. The commitment of the entire University community to this policy contributes to our goal of creating a campus free from sexual assault and from other violence that may occur within a personal, intimate relationship.

Because reporting is the only way that action can be taken against an alleged violator of this policy, the University strongly encourages the reporting of sexual assault and relationship violence to appropriate officials. Timely reporting and a medical examination within 72 hours is critical in preserving evidence of sexual assault, and the ability to respond effectively, but a victim/survivor can report an incident at any time.

The University provides an array of on campus services to victims/survivors, including confidential crisis intervention, health care, counseling, and related assistance, including changing academic programs and living situations (if requested and reasonably available). The University provides appropriate judicial/discipline processes that are supportive, fair, expedient, and respectful of the individual needs and rights of all involved, including privacy. The University provides a variety of educational programs and services to all members of the University community.

Definitions

Consent

Consent is informed, freely and actively given, and mutually understood. If physical force, coercion, intimidation, and/or threats are used, there is no consent. If the victim/survivor is mentally or physically incapacitated or impaired so that the victim/survivor can not understand the fact, nature or extent of the sexual situation, and the condition was or would be known to a reasonable person, there is no consent. This includes conditions due to alcohol or drug consumption, or being asleep or unconscious.

Sexual Assault

Sexual assault is actual, attempted or threatened sexual contact with another person without that person's consent. Sexual assault often is a criminal act that can be prosecuted under Minnesota state law, as well as under the Student Conduct Code and employee discipline procedures.

Relationship Violence

Relationship violence means causing physical harm or abuse, and threats of physical harm or abuse, arising out of a personal, intimate relationship. Relationship violence often is a criminal act that can be prosecuted under Minnesota state law, as well as under the Student Conduct Code and employee discipline procedures.

CLIENT SERVICES

Direct Service Delivery Model

The Aurora Center (TAC) is a safe and confidential place to report sexual assault/relationship violence/stalking. TAC only reports assaults to authorities with the strict written permission of the victim/survivor.

The following is a breakdown of service delivery options that are available at no cost to all victim/survivors/concerned persons of sexual or relationship violence whether they fit into the reporting protocol or not. TAC serves the University of Minnesota, TC & Augsburg College campuses.

Counseling:

1. 24 hour/7 day Helpline
2. Telephone or walk-in short-term individual advocacy services, provide options, or referrals
3. Short term crisis counseling/intervention
4. Weekly victim/survivor support group
5. Supportive, confidential, and safe environment to support the victim/survivor's decision to report assaults to appropriate authorities
6. Provide on-going supportive follow-up services

Academics:

1. Contact academic faculty/staff for academic accommodations
2. Coordinate a change in classroom sections for safety considerations with faculty
3. Assist students (when appropriate) to obtain tuition reimbursements

Medical:

1. Accompany to University of Minnesota hospital E.R for evidentiary sexual assault exam, treatment for physical injuries and testing for sexually transmitted diseases and pregnancy – in MN all evidentiary exams costs are covered by the state.

Housing:

1. Arrange alternate safe housing
2. Assist victim/survivor to inform proper Housing authorities and Academic Personnel
3. Assist students (when appropriate) to obtain residence hall reimbursements

University:

1. Provide training to internal and external communities relating to issues of all forms of sexual exploitation
2. Assist in filing (if applicable) sexual harassment complaints with University of Minnesota Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action
3. Assist in filing (if applicable) complaints to the University of Minnesota Office for Student Conduct and Academic Integrity
4. Serve as liaison between Student Conduct Office and victim/survivors to facilitate disciplinary proceedings
5. Accompany victim/survivors to hearing if victim/survivor pursues disciplinary process and agrees to testify.

Legal:

1. Provide on-site assistance with writing restraining orders
2. Accompany to appropriate County Clerks of Court to obtain Orders for Protection or Harassment Orders
3. Serve as liaison between police/sheriff's departments and victim/survivors to facilitate police reports
4. Accompany victim/survivors to court if victim/survivor pursues prosecution and agrees to testify.
5. Provide victim/survivors with Victims/Survivor Bill of Rights and assist (if applicable) in applying for Crime Victim Reparations.
6. Provide appropriate legal options

CLIENT STATISTICS

Total Clients Served FY 11= 402

About 36% of The Aurora Center clients (146) came to the program due to concerns or experiences of sexual assault. Of these assaults, 55.5% percent were committed by someone known to the victim and 19.9% were committed by a stranger. 25.6% of The Aurora Center clients (103) had concerns about relationship violence and 24.3 % (98) sought services for concerns related to harassment or stalking. Approximately 4% of clients contacted the Aurora Center for reasons related to child sexual abuse. Finally, 9% of clients (37) had “other” concerns such as pregnancy, housing issues, prostitution, and sexual health issues. Approximately 18% of Aurora Center clients (71) made reports to the police.

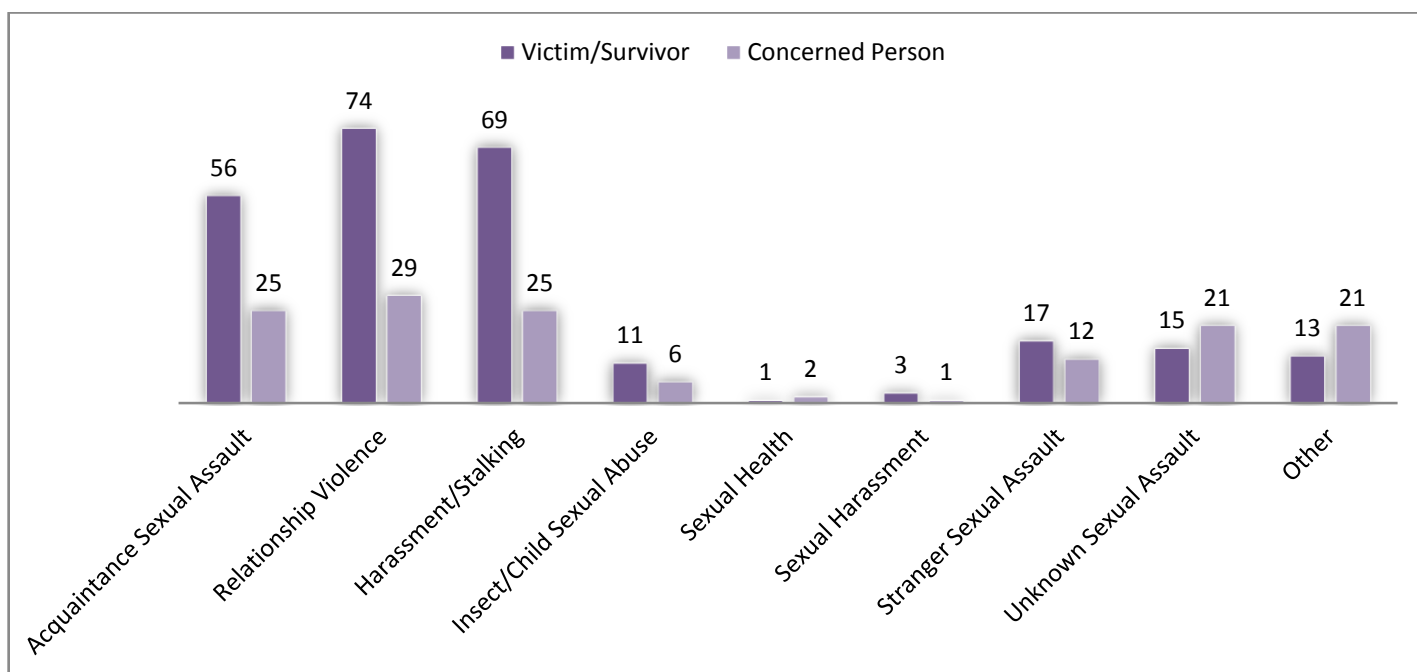
Victim/Survivor

A victim/survivor is a person who has experienced sexual or relationship violence, or is a person who has worked or is working to overcome the negative effects of that violence.

Concerned Person

A concerned person may include faculty/staff/students/family/significant others acting in a point-of-contact capacity to a sexual assault victim/survivor. A concerned person may have a short or long term role in supporting a victim/survivor.

Reason for Contact, FY 2011

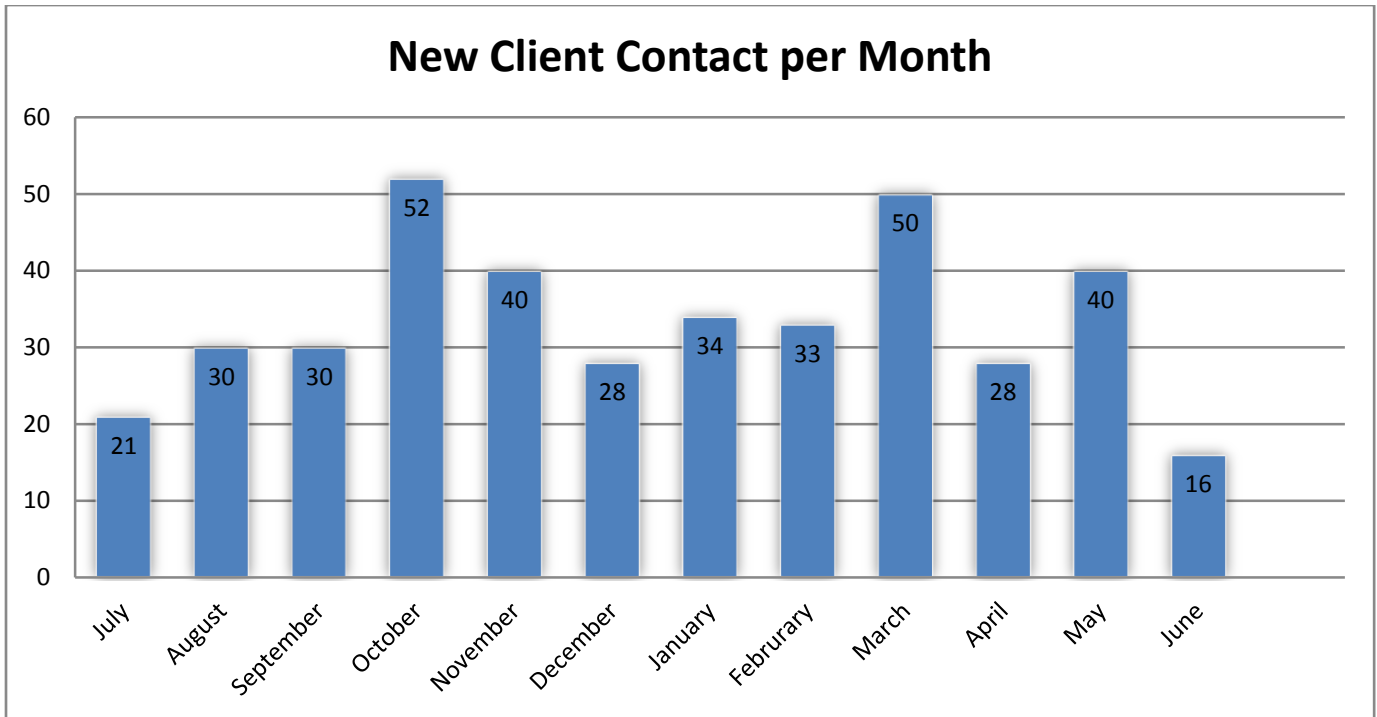


Restraining Orders: Total = 12

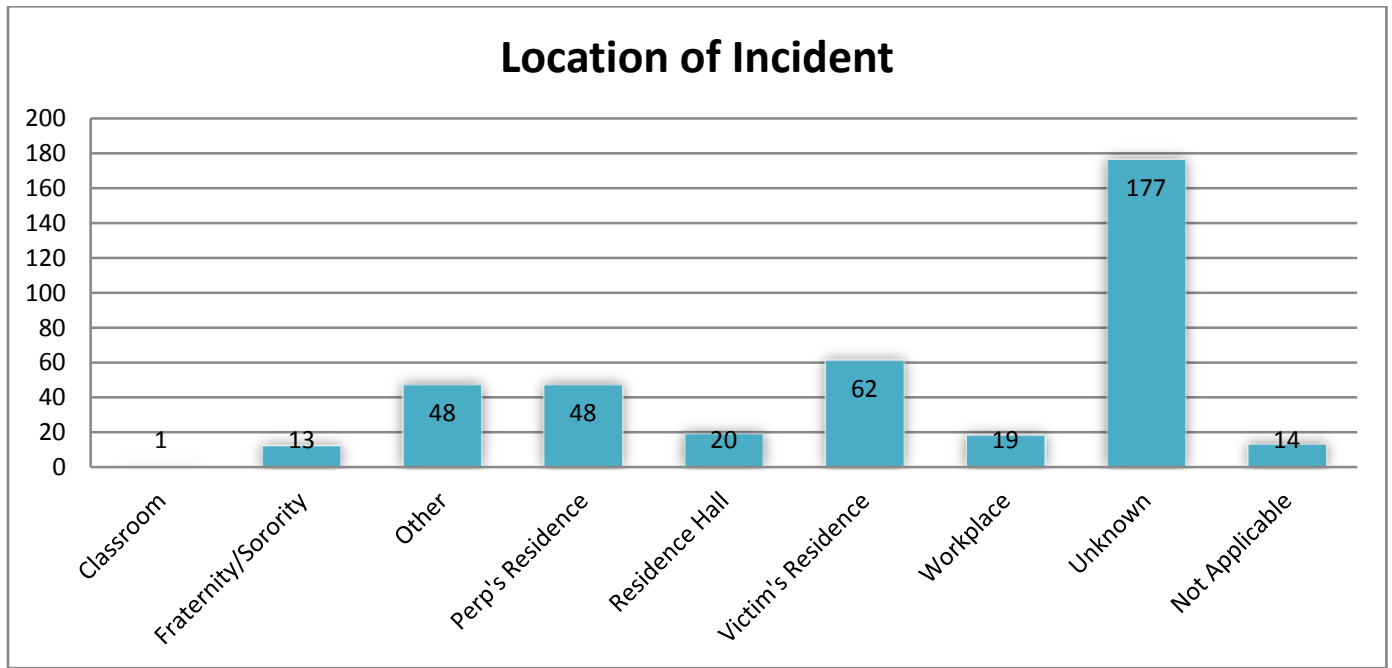
The Aurora Center advocates wrote and filed 12 restraining orders. Of these, 25% (3) were domestic violence orders for protection and 75% (9) were harassment restraining orders.

New Client Contact per Month

The number of people contacting The Aurora Center for assistance was highest in the months of October, November, March, and May. On a continual basis, October has a high number of new client contact. The summer months (June, July, and August) typically have the fewest number of clients, although that number steadily increases each year.



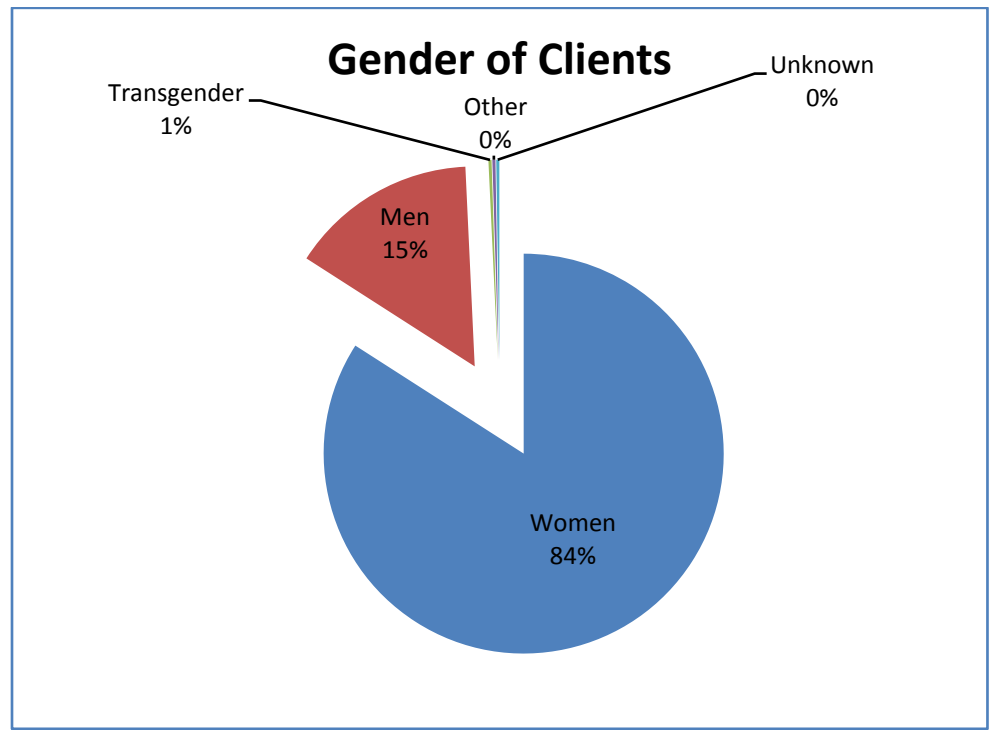
Location of Incident



Gender of Clients & Perpetrators

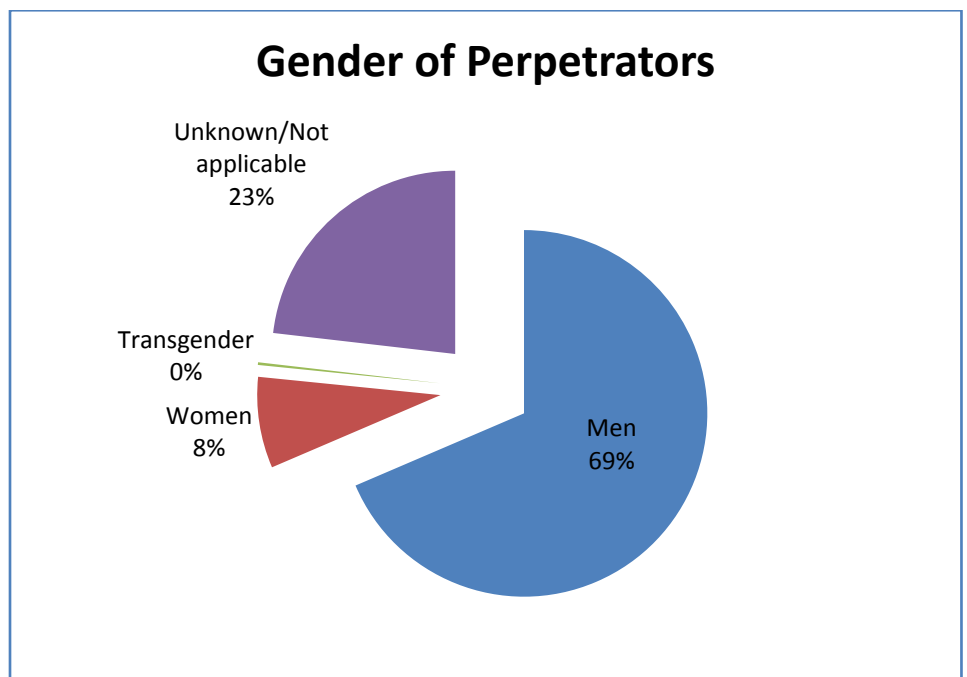
Gender of Clients

Women = 338
Men = 61
Other = 1
Transgender = 1
Unknown = 1
Total = 402



Gender of Perpetrators

Women = 34
Men = 290
Transgender = 1
Unknown/
Not applicable = 98
Total = 423*
* In some cases, more than one perpetrator was reported

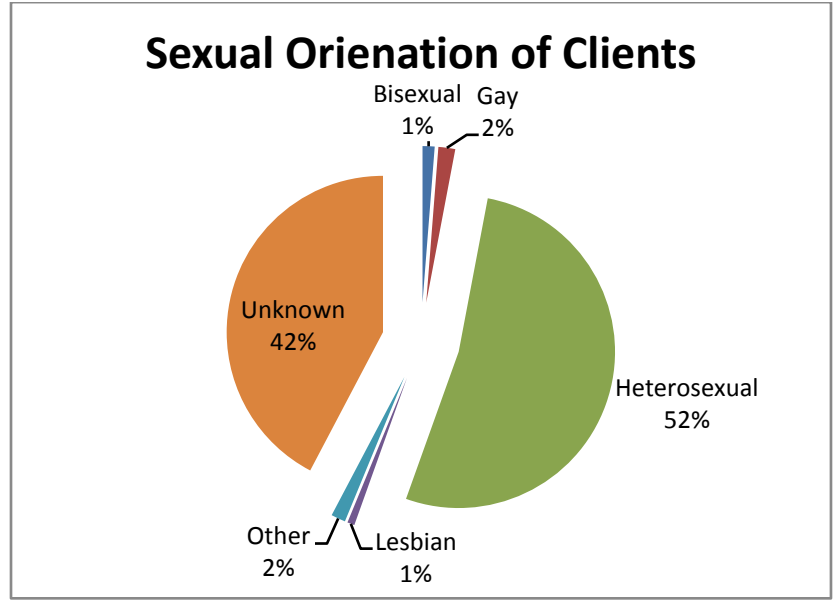


The gender of the perpetrator was reported in 77 % of cases. Of these cases, 89% of the perpetrators were reported as male and 10.5% were reported as female.

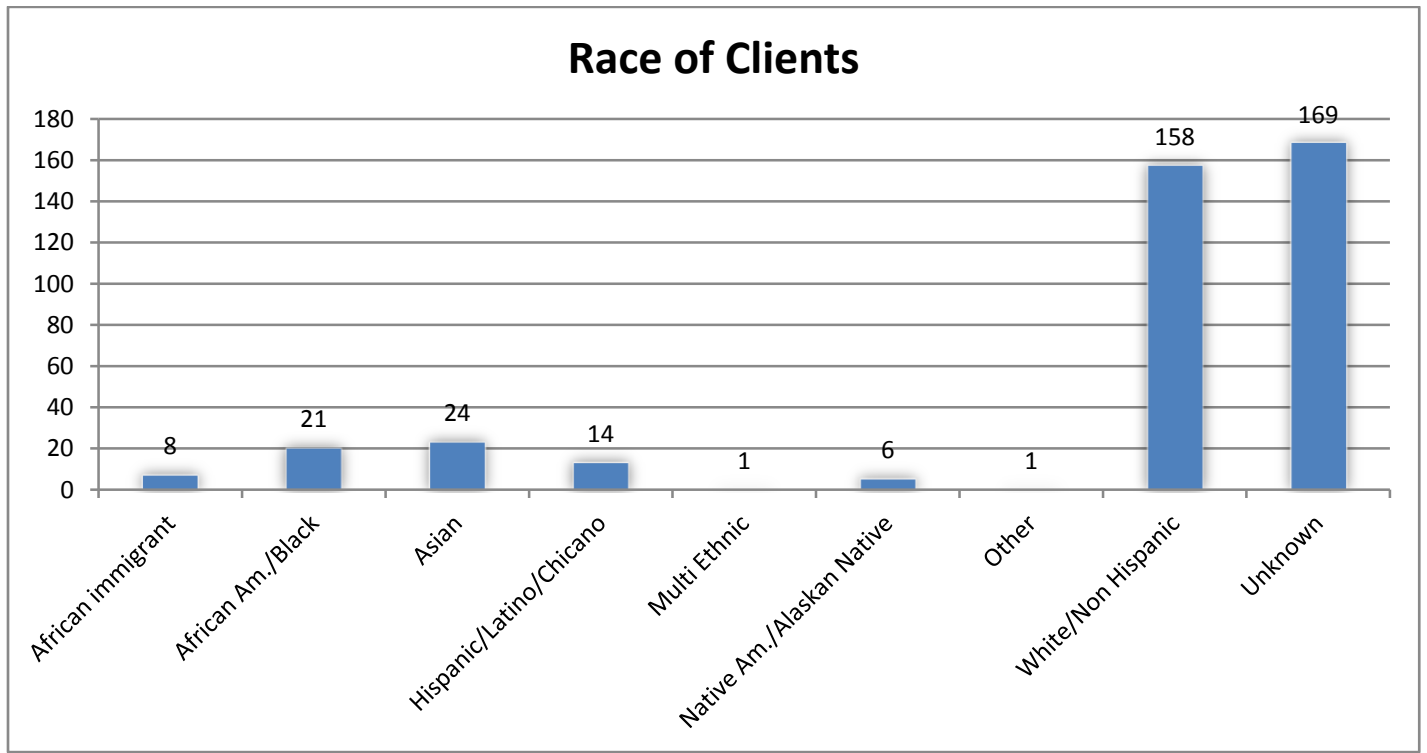
Sexual Orientation of Clients

Sexual Orientation of Clients

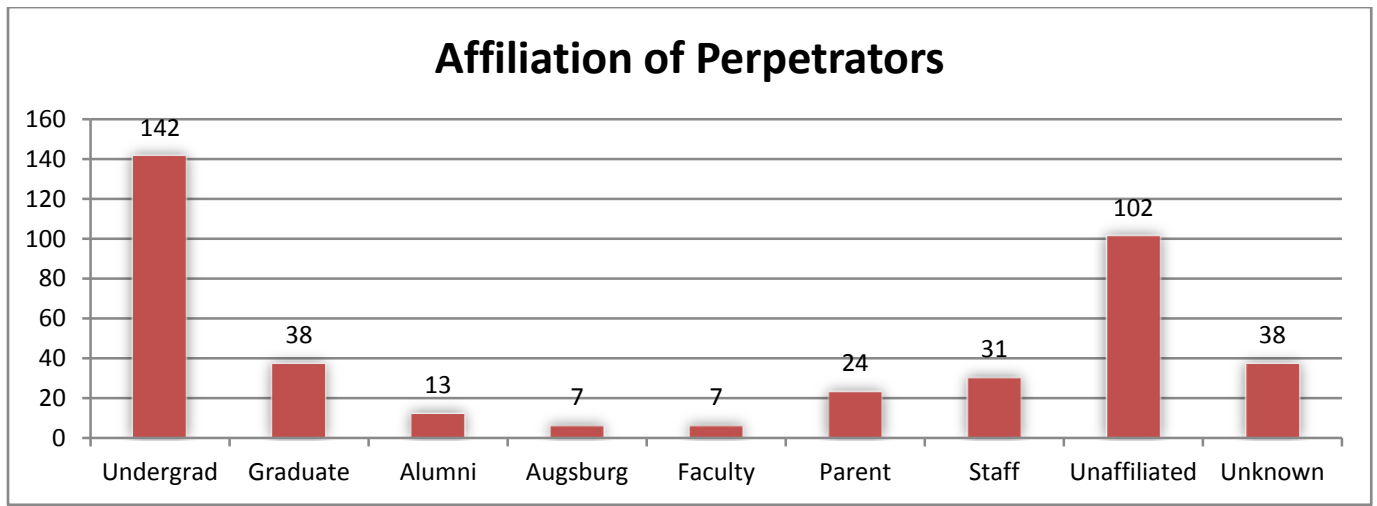
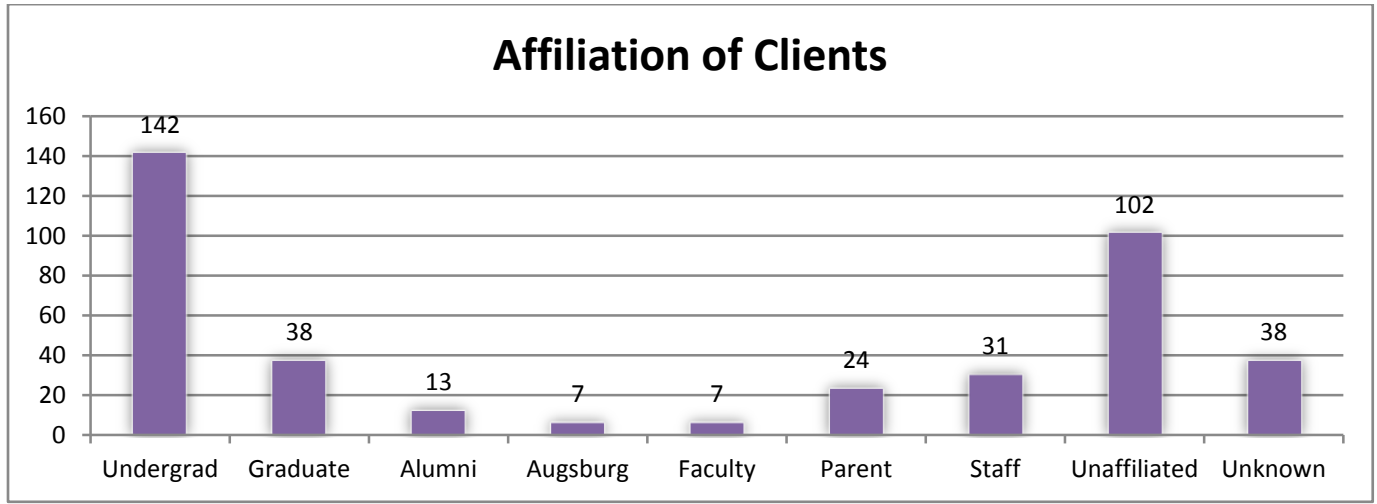
Bisexual = 5
 Gay = 7
 Heterosexual = 211
 Lesbian = 3
 Other = 6
 Unknown = 170
Total = 402



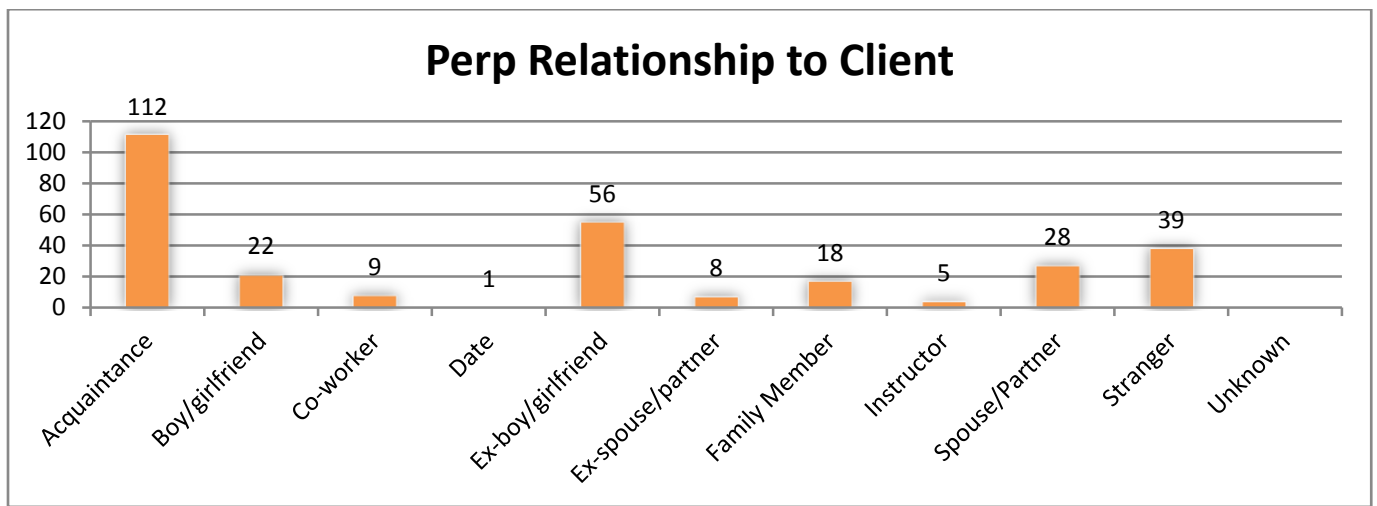
Race/Ethnicity of Clients



University Affiliation of Clients & Perpetrators

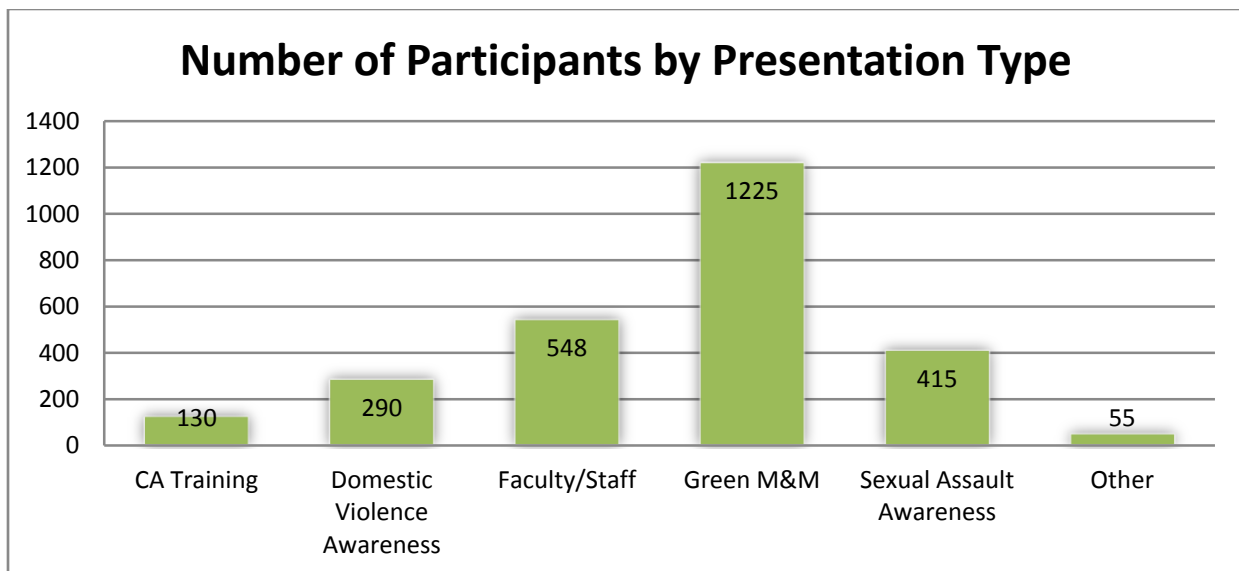


Perpetrator's Relationship to Client

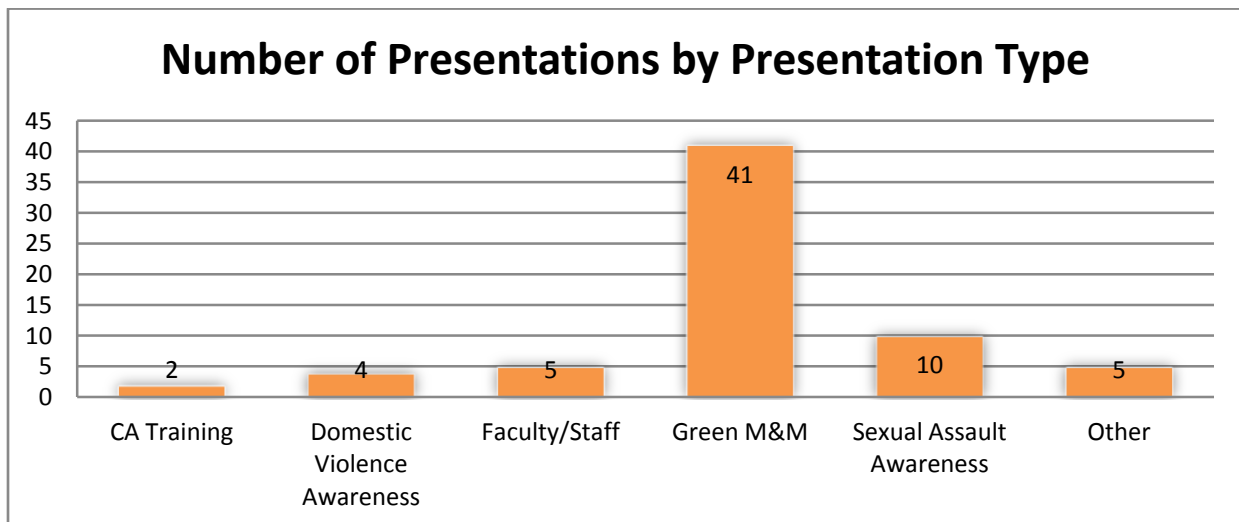


EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The Aurora Center provided education and training through 67 presentations made to 2,663 students, faculty and staff during FY 2011. Participants included members of fraternities, sororities, ROTC, athletic teams, and students of other universities including Concordia, Carleton, Augsburg College, and Hamline University. The Aurora Center educated/trained students in classes, both at the University of Minnesota and other universities in the area, ranging from physical therapy, to sociology, to public health, and staff members such as Community Advisors, Housing and Residential Life directors, academic advisors, and human resources personnel.



Presentations were conducted on a variety of topics related to sexual assault, relationship violence, and stalking. Nearly a half of the presentations during FY 2011 were based on the curriculum of “The Green M&M Project: a reality-based examination of myths and messages about sex, power, and a culture of confusion.” This presentation is an interactive peer-led inquiry into the attitudes and images that form and maintain a culture which perpetuates and normalizes sexual and relationship violence. All of The Aurora Center presentations include information on how to respond if someone you know discloses that they have been hurt by sexual or relationship violence, or stalking.



FY2011 HIGHLIGHTS

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH (DVAM)

In October 2010, in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the Aurora Center again displayed The Silent Witness project in several buildings on campus as well as during an evening of live music by local artists in The Whole organized by The Aurora Center (TAC) volunteer and DVAM Coordinator Christy Perfetti. The Silent Witness project honors the women and children killed by domestic violence during the previous year in the state of Minnesota. Twenty life-sized painted red wooden figures have been made by TAC as part of this national remembrance to graphically display the stories of the victims and the circumstances of their deaths. Other events for Domestic Violence Awareness Month included a showing of a film during the Social Justice Film Festival, an evening creating posters for Love Your Body Day, a workshop/training led by staff from the Domestic Violence Program and a workshop presented by staff of UCCS on assertiveness and healthy relationships.

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH (SAAM)

Events during SAAM 2011 included national speaker Keith Edwards presenting “She Fears You” with over 2,000 attending with the help of Fraternity & Sorority Life and Athletics. It was a mandatory event for 75% of the Greeks and for 175 first year athletes. Keith did a wonderful job in the Sports Pavilion. TAC also hosted The Vagina Monologues and helped to host the Minneapolis Take Back the Night rally, where our staff members Ilanit Kakou and Meredith Martyr served as emcees.

MEN AGAINST GENDER VIOLENCE (MAGV)

The Aurora Center continued to provide a limited opportunity for students on campus to get involved in ending men’s violence against women. The Men Against Gender Violence group is for men to discuss and educate other men about the socialization of masculinity and its connection to sexual violence and relationship abuse. With the help of MAGV Intern Matt Nichols, advisors Ross Neely, Brett Chin, and Katie Eichele and guest consultant Keith Edwards, MAGV hosted an interest event in April to solicit new members.

VOLUNTEER TRAINING

In February 2011, 22 new volunteers were trained and added to The Aurora Center. This was the largest training in recent history. On September 2010, 13 Special Projects Volunteers were trained. This was the second training ever for SPVs. May 20, 2011, 4 new Special Projects Volunteers were trained. This the first time we have done SPV training in May.

ENDING DOJ GRANT

This fiscal year ends a long and wonderful grant collaboration between the Department of Justice and The Aurora Center. To round the year out, TAC purchased 4 new computers, 6 new monitors, and created a strategic marketing plan with give aways (water bottles, flash drives, pens, magnets, poster holders, key chains) ads in the MN Daily, U-Guide and Gopher Guide, as well as creating signage to have stronger visibility on the University of Minnesota campus.

STUDENT SERVICE FEE FUNDING FOR THE AURORA CENTER

In February 2011, the University of Minnesota Student Fees committee approved to fund about half The Aurora Center’s operations budget for fiscal year 2011-2012 and for 2012-2013. This is instrumental as The University recognizes TAC as an important and viable student/staff/faculty service on this campus.

SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION RECOMMENDATIONS

In Spring 2011, The Office for Student Affairs invited Keith Edwards from Macalester College to be a consultant and put together recommendations for a Sexual Assault Prevention plan. Keith collaborated with

different student groups, units, and departments across campus to feature Keith in a training event that drew over 2000 students and some staff. In May a comprehensive plan was sent to Jerry Rinehart in OSA with ways in which the campus could better address sexual assault on campus.

THE RECOGNITION CELEBRATION – APRIL 29TH

The venue was the Mississippi Room in Coffman. Close to 80 volunteers, alums, staff, parents and friends gathered to give thanks for this year of work together. Awards were given and Ed Heisler of MNMan spoke. Leading us with grace and personal stories through the event were alums, Sara and Jake.

GRANT AWARDS AND GIFTS

- \$66,667 - **Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice** grant: remainder of 3 year grant left to fund legal advocacy for survivors of violence, violence prevention education for the university community, marketing and awareness, and events for Sexual Assault Awareness Month.
- \$1,800 – **The Women’s Center** grant:
- \$204 – **MSA Grant**: for DVAM October 2010 events.
- The Aurora Center intern, Ami W. received the **Sharon Dougherty Student Leadership Award** from the Women’s Center.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

Each year The Aurora Center recognizes each of its volunteers for their service and commitment. In 2011, several outstanding volunteers also earned special recognition. Along with good food and warm words of gratitude the following awards were made at the annual Aurora Recognition Event on April 29, 2011 held in Coffman Union.

Excellence in Leadership:

“For your distinguished ability as a leader to encourage peers and the community to end sexual assault, relationship violence, and stalking by fostering social change through primary prevention.”

Awarded to: Christina Perfetti

Rising Star Award

“In recognition of your increasing dedication and commitment to the work of The Aurora Center.”

Awarded to: Jenna Ehrman

Anne Caton Award

"For extraordinary and dedicated service to the victims of violence in our communities...for your compassion and commitment to the programs and services of the The Aurora Center”

Awarded to: Samantha Juve

The Larry Anderson Partnership Award for “outstanding and compassionate service to all crime victims. In appreciation of your commitment to partnership within the University community”

Awarded to: Mary Fagerhugh, Boynton Human Resources & the University Counseling and Consulting Services: received by Glenn Hirsch and Harriet Cooper Haynes.

Outstanding Service Awards are give to volunteers who have gone way beyond the expectations of the position: Beth Libbesmeyer, Zach Taurer, Jennifer Snider, Gwyn Fallbrooke, Jenna Ehrman, Samantha Juve, Kayla Pachl, Stacey Tsantier, Susanne Gabrielsen, Cassie Morrhead, Ali Hodek, Kelly Gregg

The Extra Mile Award

"For your energy and commitment to the work we do and your uncanny ability to go above and beyond the call of duty"

Awarded to: Not awarded this year

Megan Alama Volunteer Achievement Award

“For your exemplary service in more than one position as a volunteer at The Aurora Center and for your continued dedication and leadership towards ending gender violence in our community.”

Awarded to: Not awarded this year

Visionary Leadership Award

“For years of dedication to partnership and service in advancing and promoting The Aurora Center within the University of Minnesota.”

Awarded to: Not awarded this year

VOLUNTEERS

Violence Prevention Educators: Peer Educators (undergrad & grad students) who facilitate workshops such as The Green M&M Project.

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Anthony R | 8. Jacqueline C |
| 2. Behiye K | 9. Jennifer G |
| 3. Chelsea K | 10. Karl P |
| 4. Christina P | 11. Kate M |
| 5. Dan H | 12. Kelly G |
| 6. David H | 13. Kit A |
| 7. Heather B | 14. Mary O |

Advocates: Trained undergrad, grad, and staff who answer the 24-hr Helpline

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Allie N | 15. Kate F |
| 2. Angela B | 16. Katherine C |
| 3. Autumn C | 17. Kayla P |
| 4. Betsy O | 18. Kit A [also VPE] |
| 5. Bonnie S | 19. Maren S |
| 6. Breana W | 20. Peyton B |
| 7. Cassie M | 21. Sarah E |
| 8. Dominica C | 22. Sarah T |
| 9. Dorothee T | 23. Shannon E |
| 10. Iberta S | 24. Stacey T |
| 11. Irene L | 25. Susanne G |
| 12. Jenna E | 26. Sydna C |
| 13. Jennifer S | 27. Taylor Z |
| 14. Karl P [also a VPE] | 28. Thavy S |

Special Projects Volunteers: Students who table, organize special events or help with other limited time commitment jobs.

- | | |
|--------------|----------------|
| 1. Bethany L | 6. Tom J |
| 2. Celia F | 7. Zachary T |
| 3. Gwyn F | 8. Catherine F |
| 4. Kendra T | 9. Alyssa K |
| 5. Sarah C. | |

Interns:

1. Ami W
2. Matt N
3. Kristy K
4. Autumn C

Final Count:

- 14 VPE's
- 28 Advocates
- 9 SPV's
- 4 Intern

Actual # of Volunteers (not including Interns): 52 Volunteers

STAFFING

In Fall 2010 long time, Associate Director **Roberta Gibbons** and Violence Prevention Education Coordinator **Jill Lipski Cain**, left the University of Minnesota to pursue new opportunities.

Meredith Martyr, a Violence Prevention Education Volunteer and former VPE Intern stepped in as the Interim VPE Coordinator for the 2010-2011 academic year, and a national search was conducted in May 2011 to replace her position. **David Shafer** accepted the job in June 2011 and started the position as the new VPE Coordinator Aug. 1, 2011.

Additionally, a new position was created called the Assistant Legal Advocacy/Direct Services Coordinator, and former volunteer **Ilanit Kakou** joined The Aurora Staff in the fall of 2010, bringing the number for full-time staff at The Aurora Center to a record high of six members.

In February 2011, **Katie Eichele** started the position as Assistant Director of The Aurora Center. Katie has worked at the UofM since 2004 for Housing & Residential Life with a background in university student conduct, social justice, student development, and crisis management.

2010-2011 FULL TIME STAFF

Director

Jamie C. Tiedemann, M.S.

Assistant Director

Katie Eichele, M.S.

Volunteer Coordinator

Jerie Smith, M.A.

Interim Violence Prevention Education Coordinator

Meredith Martyr

Legal Advocacy/Direct Services Coordinator

Becky Redezke-Field

Assistant Legal Advocacy/Direct Services Coordinator

Ilanit Kakou