THE AURORA CENTER FOR ADVOCACY & EDUCATION ANNUAL REPORT FY2013

(July 1, 2012- June 30, 2013)



Sexual Assault • Relationship Violence • Stalking

The Aurora Center for Advocacy & Education 128 Pleasant St. SE, Appleby Hall Suite 117, Minneapolis, MN 55455 Business: 612-626-2929

24 Hour Helpline: 612-626-9111 www.umn.edu/aurora aurora@umn.edu

Office for Student Affairs UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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MISSION STATEMENT

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 around sexual and relationship violence and oppression.
- Provide meaningful volunteer and leadership opportunities.

We envision a campus where:

- Sexual and relationship violence is unacceptable;
- 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;
- 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
 violence.

UNIVERSITY POLICY

The University of Minnesota shall provide equal access to and opportunity in its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

Inquiries regarding compliance may be directed to the Director, Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, University of Minnesota, 274 McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak Street S.E., Minneapolis, MN 55455, (612) 624-9547, eoaa@umn.edu. Website at diversity.umn.edu/eoaa.

This publication/material is available in alternative formats upon request. Please contact (The Aurora Center, 128 Pleasant St. SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455, 612-626-2929, aurora@umn.edu).

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA SEXUAL ASSAULT/RELATIONSHIP VIOLENCE POLICY (Academic/Administrative Policy 2.3.6)

The University's full policy statement can be accessed on the web at: www.policy.umn.edu/Policies/Operations/Safety/SEXUALASSAULT.html

POLICY STATEMENT

As a university and as a community we strive to assure the safety and to respect the dignity of each student, staff and faculty member. Sexual assault, relationship violence and stalking are prohibited at the University. 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 for responding, including the police department; victim/survivor assistance; internal mechanisms for discipline and dispute resolution; prevention training; and other related services.

REASON FOR POLICY

Board of Regents Policy on *Sexual Harassment* prohibits conduct covered by this administrative policy and the *Student Code of Conduct*. Further, this policy implements the Regent's policy in part and 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.

DEFINITIONS

Consent

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 cannot 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.

Relationship Violence

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.

Sexual Assault

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.

Stalking

A course of conduct directed at a specific person that is unwanted, unwelcome, or unreciprocated and that would cause a reasonable person to feel fear.

CLIENT SERVICES

Direct Service Delivery Model

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

All incidents of harassment based on race, religion, color, gender, national origin, ability, status, age, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression will be reported to the Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action with the permission of the victim/survivor.

The following is a breakdown of service delivery options that are available at no cost to all victim/survivors and concerned persons of violence whether they fit into the reporting protocol or not:

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 groups
- 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 the 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 to obtain Orders for Protection (OFP) or Harassment Orders (HRO)
- 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 Bill of Rights and assist (if applicable) in applying for Crime Victim Reparations.
- 6. Provide appropriate legal options

VICTIM RIGHTS POLICY

Sexual Assault * Relationship Violence * Stalking

Reporting: You may file a criminal charge with the University of Minnesota Police Department at (612) 624-2677 or file a complaint with university officials including the Office for Student Conduct & Academic Integrity at (612) 624-6073 or with Equal Opportunity & Affirmative Action at (612) 624-9547. You may report to some, all or none of these offices as you see fit.

Campus Assistance: If you would like assistance in notifying the proper law enforcement and/or campus authorities, you may call The Aurora Center at (612) 626-2929 or their Helpline at (612) 626-9111. The Helpline is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Walk-in appointments are available during business hours. The Aurora Center also provides crisis counseling and options or assistance with other needs you may have. Their website is www.umn.edu/aurora. You may also seek counseling with University Counseling & Consulting Services at (612) 624-3323 or Boynton Mental Health at (612) 624-1444. The Sexual Violence Center is a free and confidential off-campus resource available (612) 871-5111.

Confidentiality: The Aurora Center staff and volunteers are required to keep all information about you confidential unless you give written permission to release information, with the exception of instances where mandated reporting is necessary (i.e. child abuse & neglect). Law enforcement and the University have a legal obligation to keep any identifying information of yours out of public records.

Preserving Evidence: If you think you may want to make a police report, save your clothes, sheets, etc. in a paper bag and do not shower. You have up to 120 hours to get a free medical forensic exam for evidence collection at any Emergency Department. Additionally, if possible, save e-mails, texts, photos, and other types of evidence that may be helpful if you choose to report.

Investigations: Upon receipt of a complaint, the University will investigate and promptly respond to your complaint. You may participate in University disciplinary proceedings concerning your complaint. If you wish, you may have a support person/advisor present, such as an Aurora Advocate or an attorney if you are represented by one.

You have the right to be notified of the outcome of any University disciplinary proceeding concerning your complaint, subject to the limitations of the Minnesota Government Data Practices Act, and to know any appeal procedures.

Reparations: If you file a police report, you have the right to financial compensation for losses incurred as a result of the crime from the State of Minnesota Crime Victims Reparations Board at (651) 201-7300 or 1-888-622-8799 and the Office of the Victims of Crime at 1-800-363-0441.

Accommodation & Employment: At your request, the University will assist you as is reasonable and feasible (in cooperation with law enforcement) in shielding you from your alleged assailant. This may include providing alternative work, academic, or living arrangements if these options are available and feasible.

Information: If you have questions, concerns, or comments regarding any experience around sexual assault, relationship violence, or stalking, please call The Aurora Center for a free and confidential consultation. For complete information on Victim's Rights in the State of Minnesota, see Statute 611A at www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes.

The Aurora Center for Advocacy & Education, 117 Appleby Hall, 128 Pleasant Street SE Minneapolis, MN 55455. Phone (612) 626-2929. www.umn.edu/aurora

Office of Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action, University of Minnesota, 274 McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak Street SE Minneapolis, MN 55455. Phone (612) 624-9547. www.diversity.umn.edu/eoaa/

CLIENT STATISTICS

Total Clients Served FY 13 = 429

About 43% of The Aurora Center clients (183) came to the program due to concerns or experiences with sexual assault. Of these assaults, 54% percent were committed by someone known to the victim and 20% were committed by a stranger. 23% of The Aurora Center clients (100) had concerns about relationship violence and 19 % (80) sought services for concerns related to harassment or stalking. Approximately 6% of clients contacted the Aurora Center for reasons related to child sexual abuse. Finally, 9% of clients (40) had "other" concerns such as pregnancy, housing issues, prostitution, and sexual health issues.

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.

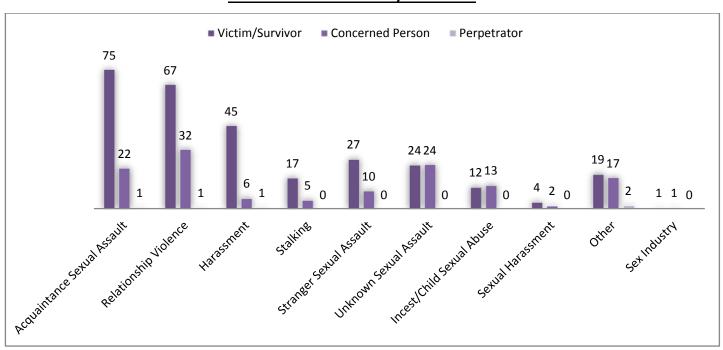
Concerned Person

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.

Perpetrator

A perpetrator is someone who may have been accused or inflicted sexual or relationship violence, or has displayed power-based personal harassment or stalking behaviors.

Reason for Contact, FY 2013



Restraining Orders: Total = 19

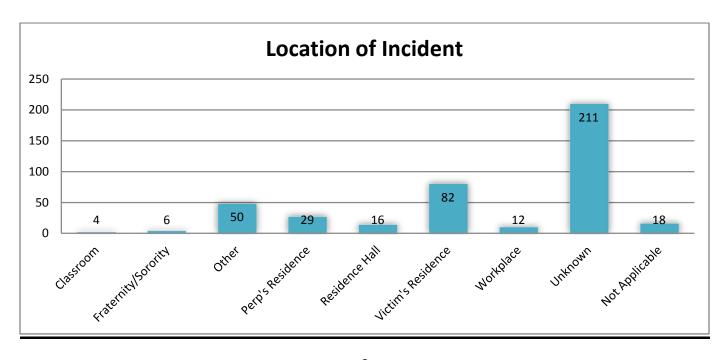
The Aurora Center advocates wrote and filed 17 restraining orders. Of these, 26% (5) were domestic violence orders for protection and 74% (14) were harassment restraining orders.

New Client Contact per Month

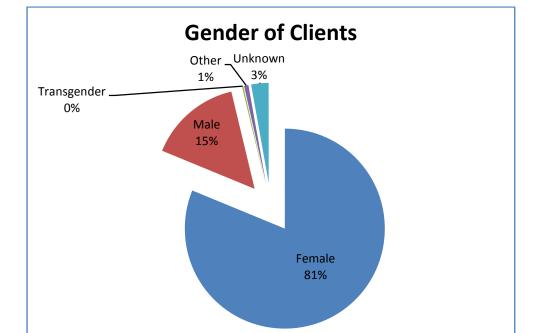
The number of people contacting The Aurora Center for assistance was highest in the months of August, September, October, and April. In the past, October has a high number of new client contact; however with more coordinated efforts during Orientation and Welcome Week and more first-year students entering their first-year with issues around sexual assault, we saw an exaggerated increase of clients in August and September. November is normally a high client month, however due to Aurora's relocation from Boynton to Appleby, we anticipated it might take clients a little time to find our new location. 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

Female = 346

Male = 64

Other = 3

Transgender = 1

Unknown = 15

Gender of Perpetrators

Female = 25

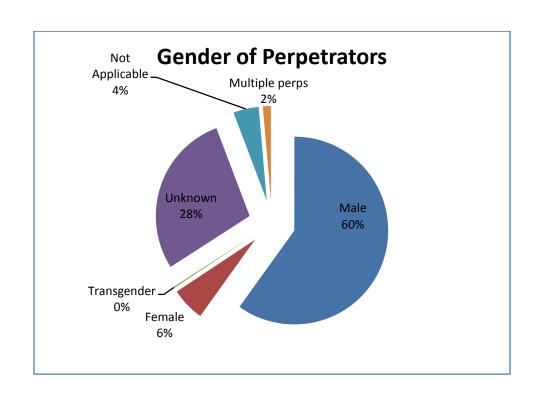
Male = 260

Transgender = 1

Unknown = 123

Not Applicable = 19

Multiple perps = 6



Of the cases where the perpatrator's gender was reported, 91% of the perpetrators were reported as male and 8.7% were reported as female, and .3% as transgender

Sexual Orientation of Clients

Sexual Orientation of Clients

Bisexual = 17

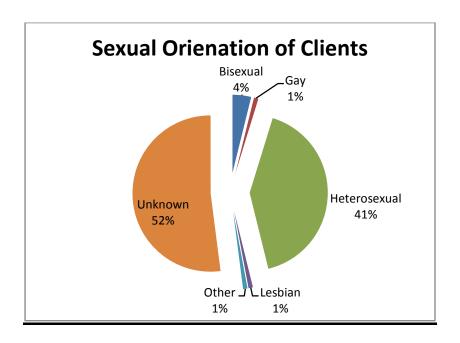
Gay = 4

Heterosexual = 183

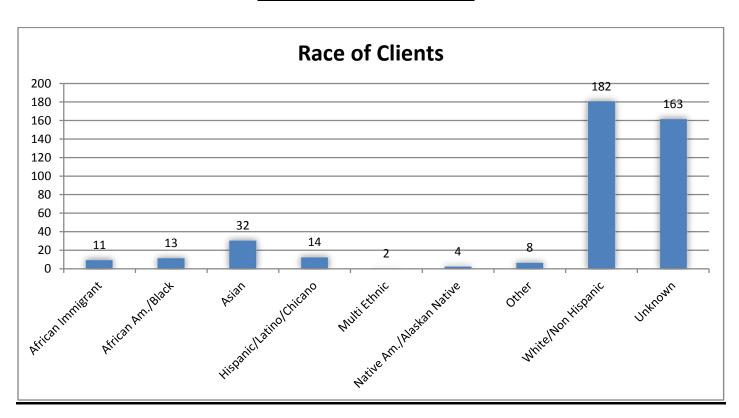
Lesbian = 4

Other = 4

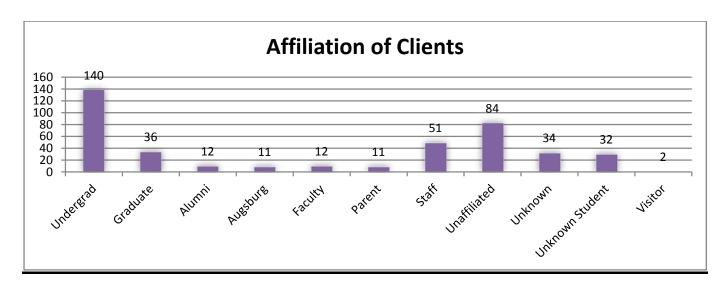
Unknown = 217

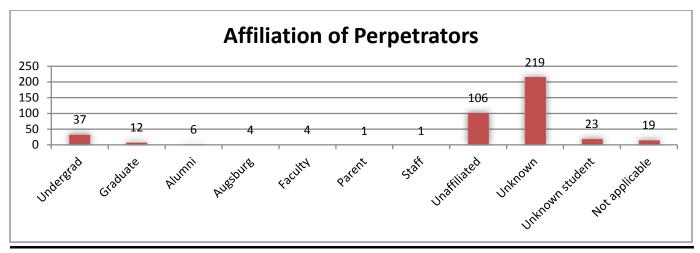


Race/Ethnicity of Clients

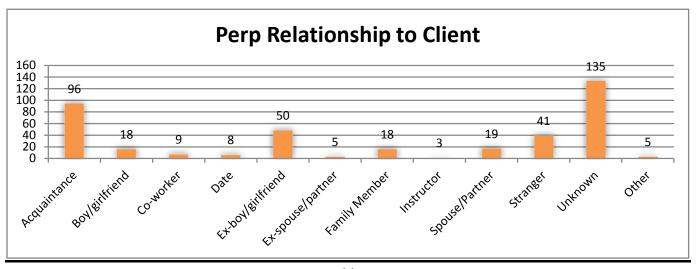


University Affiliation of Clients & Perpetrators

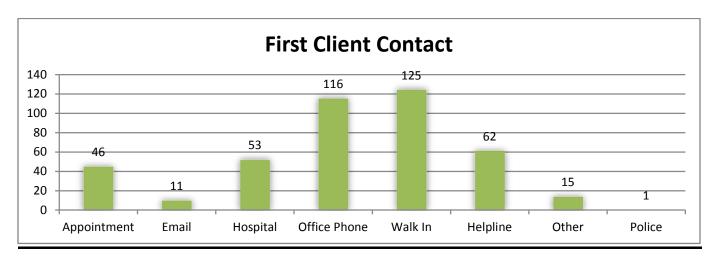




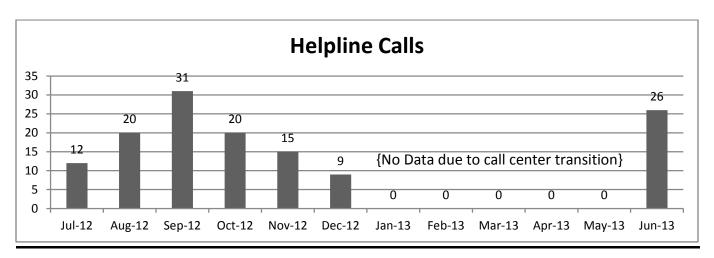
Perpetrator's Relationship to Client



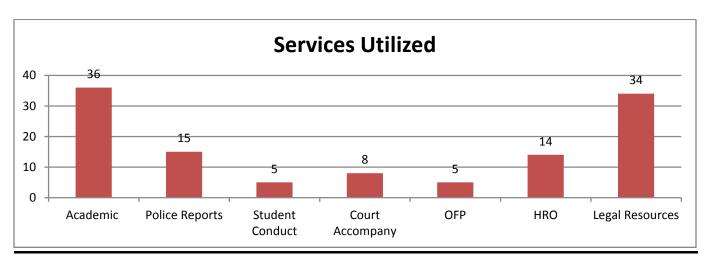
First Client Contact w/ Aurora



After Hour Helpline Calls

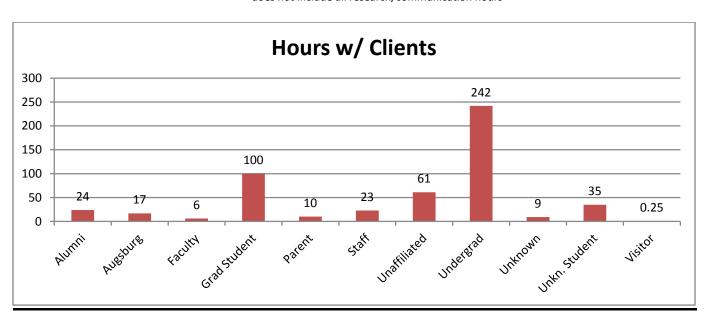


Advocacy Services Utilized

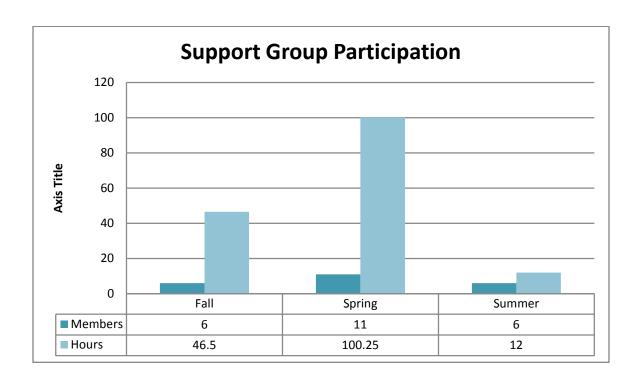


Approx Hours w/ Clients

* does not include all research/communication hours

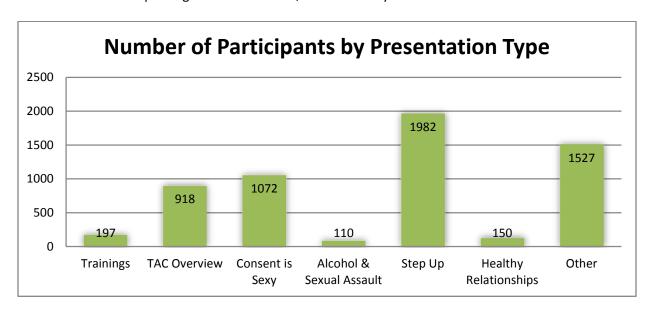


Support Group Participation



EDUCATION AND TRAINING

The Aurora Center provided education and training through 100 presentations made to 5,956 students, faculty and staff during FY 2013. Participants included members of fraternities, sororities, ROTC, athletic teams, and students of other universities including Concordia, Augsburg College, and several local high schools. 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. 86 of our customer requests since 2002 have been repeat customers with 44 of them repeating MORE than twice, often annually.

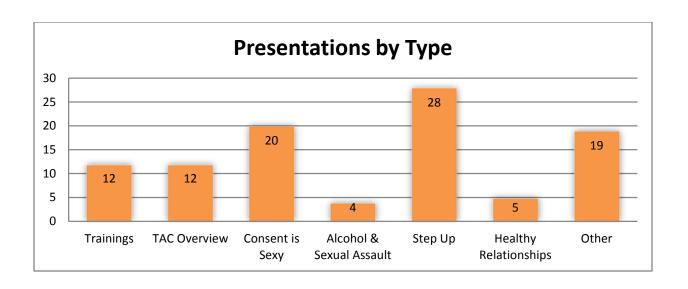


Presentations were conducted on a variety of topics related to sexual assault, relationship violence, and stalking. Nearly a half of the presentations during FY 2013 were based on the curriculum of "Step Up" and "Consent is Sexy". "Consent is Sexy is an interactive peer-led inquiry which focuses on consent, coercion, and what happens when alcohol is thrown into the mix.

The Step Up presentation is an interactive peer-led inquiry into prosocial behavior/bystander intervention program that features 1) The 5-Decision Making Steps; 2) Factors that affect a person who wants to Step Up; 3) Strategies to effectively Step Up; 4) Scenarios to Step Up. The Aurora Center in collaboration with Boynton, Athletics, Housing & Residential Life and Fraternity and Sorority Life launched the Bystander Intervention curriculum called "Step Up!" in Fall 12. Step Up! provides simple strategies and scenarios that students can engage in to address not only sexual and relationship violence, but also high risk drinking, mental health issues, bias, and academic dishonesty. 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.

Other presentations include:

- Healthy Relationships—focuses on defining healthy relationships and covers "how to spot a loser lover"
- **Violence and Public Health**—discusses the impact that violence has on the community from a public health perspective illustrates
- **Overview**—Aurora services, presentations, etc.
- Faculty/Staff Trainings—covers policies, protocol, and mandated reporting
- Custom Presentations—provides information on special topics, advanced knowledge, etc.



FY2013 HIGHLIGHTS

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH 2012 (DVAM)

Presence of The Aurora Center with information about DVAM events began during Welcome Week with the Silent Witness figures displayed during the Day of Respect in the Field House.

During the month of October, the Silent Witness figures were displayed in Athletic's Bierman Hall for one week.

The film "Crime after Crime", co-sponsored with the William Law Student Organization, was shown at the Humphrey Center on October 16th with discussion following. Display Tables were "personed" by TAC volunteers weekly in October with information about events.

On October 17th the film "We Overcame Torture" was shown on the West Bank of the U of MN followed by discussion, and hosted by Italia Mendez Campaign against Political Repression and Sexual Torture.

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH 2013 (SAAM)

- 1. APRIL 3, The Aurora Center co-sponsored Boynton Health Service's "Cirque De-Stress" and did a belly dancing demonstration.
- 2. APRIL 5, The Aurora Center co-sponsored the National Public Health Week Film Festival for a screening of the film "TRANS".
- 3. APRIL 9, The Aurora Center sponsored a body positive Belly Dance Lesson and Performance featuring Afsana Belly-dancing Troupe.
- 4. APRIL 10: The Aurora Center sponsored a flashmob called "Break the Silence: Flashmob".
- 5. APRIL 10: The Aurora Center co-sponsored with The Women's Center: "I <3 Female Orgasm".
- 6. APRIL 17: The Aurora Center promoted the TransCommission Celebration
- 7. APRIL 21: The Aurora Center sponsored: The Vagina Monologues
- 8. APRIL 23: The Aurora Center sponsored Yoga, Trauma, and Healing Seminar

Master of Social Work INTERN

In August 2012, Jerie Smith and Katie Eichele initiated the process and worked with the School of Social Work program to interview and get placed with a Master of Social Work Intern who will serve as one of the Advocate Interns for TAC. **Mariel Blomstrand** was the first MSW Intern under the MSW Field Placement supervision of Susan Warfield at the Student Parent Help Center and a licensed MSW, a MSW Faculty Advisor, and the agency supervision of Jerie Smith.

VOLUNTEER TRAINING

In February 2013, about 50 new volunteers were trained and added to The Aurora Center. This was the largest and most diverse training in recent history. Over the year, a number of Special Project Volunteers were also trained.

UCCS SUPPORT GROUP COLLABORATION

In Spring 2013 TAC and University Counseling and Consulting Service (UCCS) added a second support group for sexual assault survivors utilizing facilitators from both TAC and UCCS. The support groups meet weekly on Tuesdays and are looking to expand, creating a support group for individuals experiencing relationship violence.

STUDENT SERVICE FEE (SSF) FUNDING FOR THE AURORA CENTER

In February 2013, The Aurora Center submitted its second application to the Student Service Fees process and e-established its goal, mission, and financial records with the University of Minnesota Student Service Fees Committee. The committee approved funding for about half The Aurora Center's operations budget for fiscal year 2013-2014 and for 2014-2015. This is instrumental as The University recognizes TAC as an important and viable student/staff/faculty

service on this campus. The SSF Committee granted 2.5% salary increases and for 2014-2015 agreed to appropriate \$20,000 towards the Step Up Bystander Program.

AURORA MOVES

In November 2012, Aurora moved from Boynton (resident since 1998) over to Appleby Hall room 117. A classroom and former departmental office was transformed to accommodate Aurora's space design and to be more visible and connected with other student service units. Construction began mid-September 2012 and Aurora was able to move in November 2012 with an open house in January 2013.

GROUPS/AFFILIATIONS

In the past year, The Aurora Center has made connections with various organization in Minnesota and the county to become co-members such as 1 in 6 which provides services for male survivors; Day One which is a MN statewide shelter referral/database program centered out of Cornerstone in Bloomington, MN; Legal Aid MN which provides victim/survivors with legal options/advice; and Call for Justice which is a network of agencies to address legal problems for victim/survivors in MN. The Aurora Center also maintains an active role in the Hennepin County Sexual Assault Multidisciplinary Action Response Team.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ACT

The Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) is a landmark piece of federal legislation that sought to improve the criminal justice and community-based responses to domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking in the United States. The passage of VAWA in 1994, and its reauthorization in 2000, 2005, and again in March 2013 has changed the landscape for victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault and stalking greatly impacting action on college campuses. It impacts campus reporting, policies, prevention/training, and victim services.

THE RECOGNITION CELEBRATION - APRIL 26TH

The venue was the Heritage Center in the McNamara Alumni Center. Close to 90 volunteers, alums, staff, parents and friends gathered to give thanks for this year of work together. Awards were given and Karen Kaler, the university president's wife, shared some reflective words of encouragement.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION

Each year The Aurora Center recognizes each of its volunteers for their service and commitment. In 2013, several outstanding volunteers also earned special recognition. Along with a catered dinner buffet and warm words of gratitude the following awards were made at the annual Aurora Recognition Event on April 26, 2013 held in the beautiful Heritage Room in the McNamara Alumni Center with nearly 90 people in attendance.

- Sara Benning, Jake Steen and Laura Battaglia hosted the event.
- **Karen Kaler**, wife of President Kaler of the University of Minnesota, was the guest speaker, talking about her days as an advocate and the important role volunteers play in ending sexual violence and relationship violence.
- Aurora gave special honor and recognition to Jerry Rinehart, Vice Provost for Student Affairs and Dean of Students upon his retirement from the University of Minnesota. His wife, Peggy Mann Rinehart, was also in attendance.

The Larry Anderson Partnership Award for "outstanding and compassionate service to all crime victims recognizes appreciation of university member's commitment to partnership within the University community" Awarded to:

Amelious Whyte, Assistant Dean of Students and Chief of Staff, Office for Student Affairs

Excellence in Leadership:

"For 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: Ngoc Ha, Heather Barto

Rising Star Award

"In recognition of increasing dedication and commitment to the work of The Aurora Center."

Awarded to: Maddy Kluesner

Anne Caton Award

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

Awarded to: Kestutis Micke

Outstanding Service Awards are given to volunteers who have gone way beyond the expectations of the position: Joanna Trask, Alyssa Kne, Jillian Ryks

Celebrating Graduates

December 2012:

Joanna T, Jennifer J, Iberta S, Chris L

May 2013:

Undergrads: Allie N, Alyssa K, Anthony R, Erin H, Heather B, Jillian R, Kari Jo L, Kate F,

Kestutis M, Leonardo L, Maddy K, Mai V, Melina I, Peyton B, Robin A, Tricia C Graduate School: Meredith M, Counseling and Student Personnel Psychology

Domestic Violence

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

Awarded to: Kestutis Micke

Outstanding Service Awards are given to volunteers who have gone way beyond the expectations of the position: Joanna Trask, Alyssa Kne, Jillian Ryks

VOLUNTEERS

Violence Prevention Educators: Peer Educators (undergrad & grad students) who facilitate workshops.

1. Anthony R (also Advocate)

2. Allison H

3. Erin H

4. Heather B (also Advocate)

5. Jenn G (also Advocate)

6. Aoife O (also Advocate)

7. Brooklyn C

8. Mai V

9. Bronte S (also Advocate)

10. Liz S

11. Emily M

12. Jessica T

13. Mandi B

14. Tim G

15. Natalie H (also Advocate)

16. Mitchell D

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

Anjel V

2. Ayon B

3. Bonnie S

4. Chris L

5. Emily A

6. Erika P

7. Erika P8. Erin M

9. Hanna S

10. Jen S

11. Kari Jo L

12. Katie W

13. Katie B

14. Kaoru N

15. Kelly P

16. Kelsey R

17. Kit A

18. Laura B

19. Laura K (on leave)

20. Lauren S

21. Leah A

22. Lulu S

23. Maddy K

24. Mara S

25. Meghan M

26. Melinda I

27. Melissa L

28. Meredith M

29. Michelle A

30. Molly D

31. Nicole K

32. Nicole P

33. Paige G

34. Peyton B

35. Qingying X

36. Rachel D

37. Becca S

38. Rosie G

39. Sam C 40. Sarah C

41. Stacey T

42. Stormy P

43. Toni K (on leave)

44. Tricia C

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

1. Alex J

2. Kathryn V

3. Kelsey S

5. Leonardo L

4. Sydny S

7. Mehek M

8. Michelle L

6. Ramla F

9. Hokwan Lok

Interns:

1. Shannon E – Advocate then Molly D took

Shannon's place

2. Kate S – Step Up

3. Jaclyn T - VPE

4. Alyssa K – Office Assistant

5. Joanna T - Advocate

Final Count:

16 VPE's 44 Help-Line Advocates 9 SPV's 5 Interns

Actual # of Volunteers (not including Interns): 69 Volunteers

STAFFING

July 2012, Katie Eichele was named as the third Director of The Aurora Center for Advocacy & Education.

September 2012, **Christina Perfetti** moved on from her Interim Education Coordinator role, and **Traci Thomas-Card** started the role of Prevention Program Coordinator a dual role between The Aurora Center and Boynton Health Services.

December 2012, **Synda Cooper** went on to graduate school and **Megan Close** (5 years at Sexual Violence Center) was named the new Direct Services Coordinator.

April 2013, Sara Benning was named the new Assistant Director of The Aurora Center for Advocacy & Education.

May 2013, Vice Provost for Student Affairs and Dean of Students, **Jerry Rinehart**, retired from The University of Minnesota.

July 2013, Danita Brown-Young was named Vice Provost for Student Affairs and Dean of Students.

In July 2012, Katie Eichele, was named Director of The Aurora Center after an extensive search process.

2012-2013 FULL-TIME STAFF

Director

Katie Eichele

Assistant Director

Sara Benning

Volunteer Coordinator

Jerie Smith

Legal Advocacy Coordinator

Becky Redezke Field

Direct Services Coordinator

Megan Close

Prevention Program Coordinator

Traci Thomas-Card