



It doesn't just happen by strangers.

One weekend after a party in Fayetteville, Jake, a popular college senior, offered to drive college freshman Gina home. Gina looked up to Jake, trusted him, and even harbored a crush on him. But as soon as they arrived at Gina's door, Jake pushed her into her apartment, pressed his hand over her mouth, and said, "I know you have wanted this for months." After this assault, Gina spiraled into isolation and depression. Her grades plummeted as she focused on avoiding Jake. After two months of suffering alone, she finally told her mother, who found the NWA Center for Sexual Assault and encouraged Gina to reach out for help. In a support group, Gina discovered her own resilience and began to heal.

It doesn't just happen to young people.

Rosala's husband had abused her for most of the 15 years they had been married. But one night, her situation became a nightmare when he brought one of his friends to their Springdale home to "share" his wife - then threatened to have her deported if she ever told anyone. Feeling trapped and broken, it took Rosala two days to confide in a neighbor about the assault. Her neighbor referred her the NWA Center for Sexual Assault, where Rosala received a forensic rape exam and found safety for the first time in 15 years.

It doesn't just happen to women.

Lance, 22, was looking forward to finally being out on his own. He had been living with his parents in Bentonville, but was getting ready to move to Denver to start a career. A week before the move, he went out with friends. Lance believes that a man at the party put something in his drink, and he woke up some time later on his parents' porch, bruised and in pain. His parents called 911. In the course of speaking with police, Lance's parents found out that he was gay. They kicked him out of the house and took away the car they had given him as a graduation gift. Without transportation, Lance could not move to Denver. He became homeless and alone. He finally found the NWA Center for Sexual Assault, where his advocate helped him find shelter, counseling, and a way to move on with his life.

It doesn't just happen to "other people."

A single mother, Betsy did two tours in Iraq before settling in Rogers, AR to go back to school. When her sister encouraged her to "get back out there," she tried online dating and was surprised to find someone with whom she connected. After weeks of communicating with this new man, Betsy agreed to go on a date. The next morning, she awoke aching in a strange bedroom, remembering nothing. Betsy felt ashamed, having believed this just didn't happen to people of her age. When Betsy called the NWA Center for Sexual Assault hotline, she quickly learned she was not alone. Betsy's advocate helped her find her voice with local law enforcement, get ongoing counseling, seek further support services from the VA, and even find the words to share her story with her sister and family.

To support the Survive to Thrive Campaign, please visit www.nwasexualassault.org, call 479-445-6448, or mail a check to 2367 Green Acres Rd, Fayetteville, AR 72703.

"[The Center's staff] were very nice and treated me with dignity and respect and like a human being again...I feel empowered and know I'm not alone." – a survivor

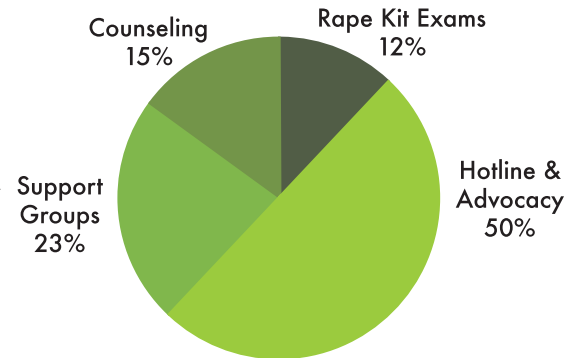
The journey from survive to thrive is a long one.

The first step is the strength of the survivor.

The next step is us.

FACTS & STATS

- **80,000+ adults** in NWA will be sexually assaulted in their lifetime.
- We are the **only organization in NWA** that serves adult survivors of rape and sexual assault, and we are entering our 35th year of service.
- We provide free 24/7 support to adult survivors through these services. →
- In 2016, we served 1,665 survivors and their families.



1,655 Survivors Served in 2016

SURVIVORS NEED YOU

- Due to a change in their funding priorities, we are losing our United Way funding in June 2017.
- We are also facing a possible loss of federal funding later in 2017.

Loss of UW funding + loss of federal funding =
loss of services for survivors in our community.

But it doesn't have
to be this way.

**SURVIVORS
NEED YOU.**

GIVE TODAY: www.nwasexualassault.org or
2367 Green Acres Rd, Fayetteville, AR 72703

FROM SURVIVE TO THRIVE

The Survive to Thrive at 35 Campaign will empower survivors and our neighbors by ensuring that our services continue this year and expand into the future. **The Campaign will raise \$160,000 for three components:**



Maintaining Fund
(\$60,000)

To support the 24/7 hotline, advocacy, rape kit exams, support groups, and counseling.



Surviving Fund (\$70,000)

To support one-on-one advocacy and counseling services in the loss of United Way funding and potential loss of federal funding in 2017; if federal funding continues, that portion of the Surviving Fund will be used for new outreach and prevention programming.



Thriving Fund (\$30,000)

To eliminate organizational debt and position the organization for growth and expansion.

"I donate to the NWA Center for Sexual Assault because in these trying times it's important to me to be good to others, and at the Center, I know my money makes a big difference for my neighbors who are hurting." – *Alma Lopez, Director of Pricing Strategy, Walmart*