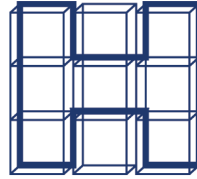


**It
takes
courage to
reach out, but
you don't have to
face this journey alone.**

We're Here to Help

Our dedicated team of professionals are ready to listen, help, and guide you towards safety and healing.

- It is important to recognize that you are NOT to blame
- It is common to feel isolated, helpless, angry, afraid, and out of control. You may feel guilty but what happened is NOT your fault
- There is support and help available, at any time



Lake of the Woods District Hospital

Sexual Assault / Domestic Violence Program

21 Sylvan Street West, Kenora ON P9N 3W7
807-468-9861
www.lwdh.on.ca

Emergency Resources

Saakaate House, Women's Shelter

807-468-5491
1-800-465-1117 (24 Hour)

Naotkamegwaning Women's Shelter

807-226-2605
807-226-2603 (24 Hour)

Kenora Emergency Shelter

807-468-1838

Kenora Sexual Assault Center (KSAC) (24 Hour)

807-468-SAFE (7233)
1-800-565-6161

Crisis Response Services (24 Hour)

1-866-888-8988

Assaulted Women's Help Line (24 Hour)

1-866-863-0511

Victim Support Line

1-888-579-2888
877-467-2815

LWDH Counselling Services

807-467-3555



SEXUAL ASSAULT / DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TREATMENT PROGRAM GENERAL INFORMATION

Healing Starts Here

We believe you and we support you

To access care, go to the Emergency Department at Lake of the Woods District Hospital and ask for the SA/DV team



**Lake of the Woods
District Hospital**

if you are in immediate danger, call 911

Sexual Assault

Sexual Assault is any form of sexual contact or activity with another person without their consent.

Consent is a clear and mutual agreement between two individuals. It is an ongoing, active choice that can be revoked at any time – meaning anyone has the right to change their mind. Consent for one sexual activity does not imply consent for any future or different activities. It must be given each time sexual intimacy or contact occurs. Coercion has no place in consent. This means that no one should ever be threatened, pressured, or talked into sexual activity, nor should trust or authority be misused to gain consent.

A Sexual Assault Evidence Kit (SAEK) is collected to gather evidence from your body that could be key in an investigation to identify and/or prosecute the perpetrator of the assault.

A SAEK is not required in order for you to access medical care. Police are not involved unless you provide consent. If you are unsure about involving the police, the evidence can be securely stored at the hospital for up to 12 months.

Domestic Violence

Domestic Violence, or Intimate Partner Violence, involves one person asserting their power over another person in order to control or maintain control over them.

The violence can manifest in various ways, including physical, emotional, sexual, intimidation/psychological, spiritual, financial abuse, and coercive control. These forms of violence are often used in combination, alongside manipulative tactics to shift the blame from the abuser to the victim. In some cases, the abuser may also threaten to harm children, other family members, pets, or property as part of their control.

Both Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence are criminal acts. They can have long lasting effects on physical and emotional health of survivors. It is important to seek health care to minimize the impact on current and future health and well-being.

We are here to help!

What to do? We can help

The Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence (SA/DV) program is an individualized 24-hour service available to survivors who have experienced sexual assault and/or intimate partner violence.

The care provided is patient-centered and focuses on informed choices made by the survivor.

Sexual assault and intimate partner violence survivors who present to the hospital for treatment will be offered the services of specially trained nurses from the SA/DV team.

With the patients consent, the SA/DV nurse will meet with the survivor to offer care and support in a secured treatment room to protect privacy and safety. In other circumstances, non-urgent care can be scheduled with a follow-up nurse. The SA/DV Team can also be accessed through self-referral.

Care Options

This may include, but is not limited to:

- Physical assessment, documentation, and treatment of injuries
- Testing and treatment of Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs)
- Emergency contraceptives
- Reassurance and emotional support
- Collection of forensic evidence, including photographs of injuries
- Storage of forensic evidence for up to 12 months, if the patient is uncertain about involving the police
- Risk assessment and review of safety issues
- Referral for medical follow-up
- Referral to shelter and/or other relevant community resources
- Police Involvement

Remember

You did not chose to be assaulted but you CAN choose what health care you wish to receive. Your consent is required before receiving medications, lab testing, and evidence collection.

Follow-up Care

This may include, but is not limited to:

- Reassessment of injuries
- Safety Planning
- Continuing treatment and monitoring of STIs
- Further photographs of injuries
- Appropriate referral(s)
- Ongoing emotional support

This is a program of the Lake of the Woods District Hospital, Affiliated with the Ontario Network for Sexual Assault/Domestic Violence Treatment Centres.



Lake of the Woods
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