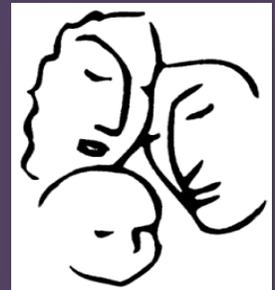


2016-2017 ANNUAL REPORT



*Saskatoon Sexual Assault
& Information Centre*

2016-2017 ANNUAL REPORT

of

Saskatoon Sexual Assault & Information Centre Working with Survivors of Past and Present Sexual Abuse

Mission

The Saskatoon Sexual Assault & Information Centre exists to be the primary provider of community leadership in addressing sexual violence. We provide counselling and services to survivors of sexualized violence and education and prevention services to the Saskatoon community.

Vision

We aspire to a society in which individuals are empowered and mobilized to share responsibility for creating communities free from sexual violence.

2016-2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS REPORT

This past year has been one of development for our board. We began a successful board member recruitment process resulting in four new members joining us. Our new members brought with them fresh ideas, new strengths, expertise and experience. Three standing committees, Finance, Governance, and Nominations were formed and have begun working. As a governing board, we wanted to be well informed of the activities of the Centre, and the needs of agency clients, so we invited staff members to make presentations to us at our board meetings.

We began a Strategic Planning process with Board members and the Executive Director through a facilitator who set the tone for creating a Development Plan for the next three years. We are now in the process of beginning to implement the recommendations.

The demand for our services continues to increase. Therefore, critical funding received from Saskatchewan Justice, the United Way, the City of Saskatoon, and the Saskatchewan Law Foundation is very much appreciated. The Saskatoon community was generous to our agency this year. We are particularly appreciative of the donations made by Raymond James, Legacy Ridge, Saskatoon Public Schools and the Greater Saskatoon Catholic boards of education. In addition we gratefully acknowledge the donations of many individuals. This year we were very fortunate to be a designated charity of the Saskatoon chapter of 100 Women Who Care.

Our major fundraising event, Luncheon en Vogue, held at TCU Place continues to be a financial success through excellent community involvement and participation. We recognize Soroptimists International of Saskatoon, who were instrumental in the creating this luncheon event and provide continued support. We also thank all other organizations and individuals who have contributed to the success of this event.

We acknowledge with sincere appreciation our Executive Director, Faye Davis, for her excellent leadership and commitment. We also applaud the work of the team of dedicated staff members who continue to deliver a high quality service to their clients.

And finally, we would like to express our gratitude to our Board of Directors for their commitment, dedication and support for SSAIC. Your involvement has been outstanding.

Thank you to everyone who has supported the Centre in the past year.

Respectfully submitted,
Ev Burnett and Maura Gillis-Cipywnyk
Co-Chairs, SSAIC Board of Directors

2016-2017 BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND STAFF

Board of Directors:

Maura Gillis-Cipywnyk	Co-Chair
Ev Burnett	Co-Chair
June Vargo	Treasurer
Anne McKenna	Director
Denise McCafferty	Director
Ailsa Watkinson	Director
Sgt. Jodi Earl	Director
Shauna Bradford-Wilson	Director
Carrie Roblin	Director
Candace Guist	Director
Shirley Kloeble	Director

Staff:

Faye Davis	Executive Director
Heather Pocock	Assistant Director/Public Education Coordinator
Megan Sawyer	Senior Client Services Worker
Dolores Cennon	Client Services Worker
Erin Redekop	Client Services Worker
Kathie Pruden-Nansel	Client Services Worker
Irene Hildebrandt	Receptionist
Kat Jones	Crisis Line/Office Assistant
Debbie Gsell-Danilkewich	Part-time Crisis Line Coordinator
Stephanie Locke	Client Services Worker
Megan Evans	Communications Project Worker (Term)
Jille Shotton	Special Project Coordinator (Term)

Crisis Line Staff Support Workers (Casual):

Ivy Armstrong
Jessica Bauer-McLure
Jody Hanson
Linzi Williamson
Nicole Callan *
Robyn Peter
Sandra Willner *
Serena Liu
Tennille Boutillier
* resigned during the fiscal year

Contracted Positions:

Terry Sukut	Events Coordinator/Fund Development
Maureen Graham	Clinical Supervisor
Christie McGregor	Group Facilitator
Rochelle Penman, Fuel Business Services Inc.	Bookkeeping Services
Gordon Holtslander, Holtslander Communications	Website Services
Megan Evans	Communications Contractor

MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Although we have been very busy delivering direct services, we invested time this year to set a new course for our work through an intensive Strategic Planning process. Our Board and staff worked diligently to ensure that our strategic priorities, goals and activities will continue to reflect the current needs of survivors of sexual violence in the Saskatoon community. This new plan will not only guide our work activities, but ensure that we deliver services in such a way that it aligns with our philosophy and values. Six strategic priorities are at the heart of the Saskatoon Sexual Assault & Information Centre strategic plan. These six strategic priorities are as follows:

- Enhancing service delivery
- Building public awareness
- Building organizational capacity
- Advocating for change
- Expanding community engagement
- Increasing diversity

We are excited to get to work on the path we have laid out for ourselves.

We couldn't do this work without the financial support of the community. The Saskatchewan Ministry of Justice, Community Justice and Community Services Branch provide the core funding for our agency. We are also very fortunate to be supported through grants from the United Way of Saskatoon, the Law Foundation of Saskatchewan, and the Saskatoon Collaborative Funders Partnership between the City of Saskatoon and the United Way. Saskatoon Public School Division and Greater Saskatoon Catholic School Division both provide funding for our "I'm the Boss of Me", Childhood Sexual Abuse Prevention Program. We would also like to recognize the following funders:

- Saskatoon Public Schools
- Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools
- 100 Women Who Care
- Raymond James
- Star Egg Company Limited

Our 13th Annual Luncheon en Vogue fundraiser was sold out with over 400 people in attendance. It was financially successful raising \$30,000 for programs and services as well as elevating awareness of the prevalence of sexual violence in our community. A big thank you goes out to Terry Sukut, our contracted Fund Development Coordinator, for all her hard work on this year's Luncheon. We would specifically like to thank:

- Soroptimists International of Saskatoon
- Paramount Day Spa & Salon – Laura and Sarah Dutka, and staff
- Durand's Footwear & Accessories
- Anthony's Fashions
- Models from the Saskatoon Police Service
- GMG Jewelers/Tacori
- The Awl Shoppe
- Canadian Tire (Preston Crossing)

- Boychuk Construction
- ClearTech
- Fastener Warehouse
- SIGA/Dakota Dunes
- Global/Shaw TV

The Saskatoon Sexual Assault & Information Centre is a relatively small agency, as we have only 11 part-time and full-time staff. We rely heavily on volunteers who staff our Crisis Line and our education/puppetry volunteers who deliver the “I’m the Boss of Me” Child Sexual Abuse Education Program. We could never offer these services without them, and we are very grateful for all they do for us.

I would like to thank our Board of Directors for their immeasurable support, guidance and commitment. Their talents, wealth of experience and passion for the work make our agency so much better, and my job so much easier. I am fortunate to be a part of an inspiring team of staff members and volunteers. On days when the darkness of sexual violence begins to creep in just a bit, I think about the fact that “helpers”, like our counselling staff and crisis line volunteers bring compassion, hope and healing to people when they need it most. They do this work sometimes at a great cost to themselves. I am so lucky to be working with such amazing people.

In this past year the media has continued to keep sexual violence in the forefront. This in turn has prompted public discussion on the issue of what is sexual consent, and shone a light on the failure of the existing criminal justice system to respond to the unique needs of survivors of sexual violence involved in that system. We have seen a subtle shift away from the focus on the actions of the survivors to a focus on the choices and behaviors of sexual predators, and Canadian society’s ongoing tolerance for, and inexcusable failure, to hold them accountable for these behaviors. It is not okay to sexually assault a woman passed out in the back of your cab, it is not okay for a judge to blame the victim for failing to physically fight off a sexual attack while giving “fatherly advice about women” to the sexual predator who assaulted her. We still have a long way to go, but we believe that these public conversations will eventually lead to change. We have hope, and we will continue to work enthusiastically with others in the community who do as well.

Respectfully submitted,

Faye Davis, Executive Director

Over the past year, the Client Service Team has continued to adapt and develop our programming to meet the needs of those who have been impacted by sexualized violence in our community. SSAIC clients are supported through the hard work, expertise and dedication of Dolores Cennon, Erin Redekop, Kathie Pruden-Nansel, Megan Sawyer and the newest addition to our team, Stephanie Locke. We were also pleased to offer a practicum placement to Christie McGregor between January and April 2017. Christie has been actively involved in all aspects of our work, including facilitation of groups, narrating the Child Abuse Prevention show in schools, and offering direct services to clients. She was a fine complement to our team. Our counselling staff is pleased to benefit from the continued clinical supervision of Maureen Graham.

In 2016-2017 we served **456 new clients which is a 19.5 % increase from 2015-2016**. We **provided 2074 counselling sessions/follow up services to survivors of sexual violence or members of their support teams**. This represents a **10% increase** in follow up services from last year.

"I feel like talking to a counsellor has given me the strength and empowerment to overcome the trauma."

- Counselling client

Client Service staff consulted with and referred to numerous community agencies and professionals including: Saskatoon Mental Health and Addiction Services, Saskatoon Public and Catholic School systems, Saskatoon City Police, Victim services, Royal University and City Hospitals, physicians, psychiatrists, therapists and other community agencies. SSAIC **received 381 referrals** for counselling and **made 469 referrals** to the agencies/services.

Group Counselling continues to be an essential component of SSAIC Client Services. In 2016-17, SSAIC offered a total of **68 group sessions** for survivors of sexualized violence. These included Open Group Programming, Women's Group and a new offering of Trauma Sensitive Yoga for Survivors. A total of **88 clients participated** in group programming, with an **average of 6 participants** per session.

"Group has enabled me to meet women in similar spaces to myself, helping me to reduce my feelings of isolation. This place has helped me reclaim my life."

-Open Group participant

"I have been able to heal from decades of dysfunction. I feel I'm on a positive path for the first time ever."

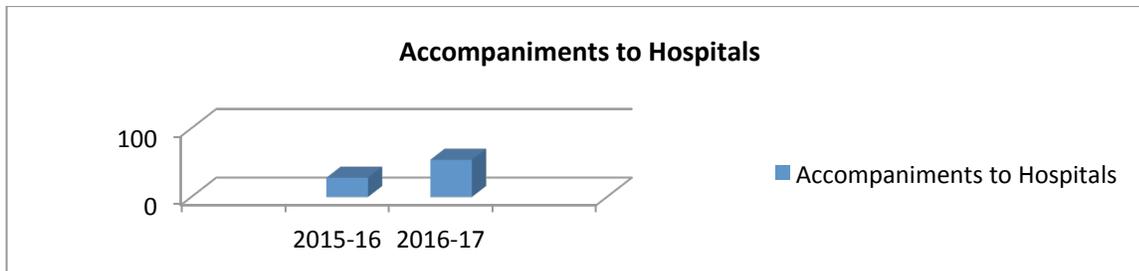
- Women's Group participant

"This class was incredible! I found it so very helpful in terms of feeling safe and coming to terms with my poor relationship with my physical self. I feel inspired to do more self-care. I appreciate the class so much and hope it does continue! Thank you for providing this opportunity for healing!"

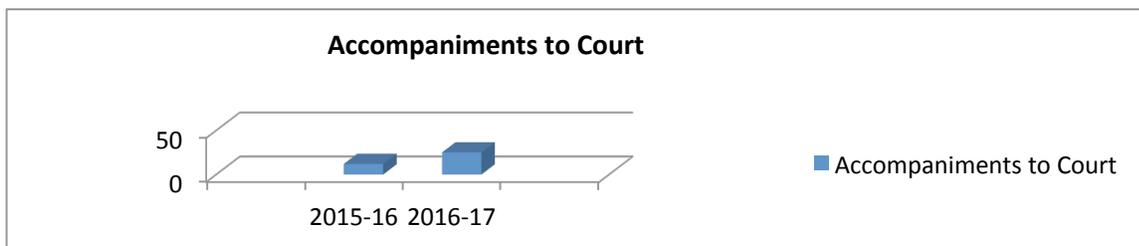
-Yoga participant

In addition to direct counselling services, staff and volunteers also accompany clients for medical attention/ forensic kits following a sexual assault, when providing a statement or sitting through a long interview at the Police station, and going to court with clients.

a) **Medical: 5 staff and 49 Crisis Line volunteers** accompanied **54 survivors** of sexual abuse to either City Hospital or Royal University Hospital this year. This is a significant increase over last year (28 accompaniments).



b) **Court: Staff accompanied 25 survivors to court** for either preliminary hearings or trials. Clients attending court may involve staff on multiple occasions throughout a trial. There were no volunteers involved in court accompaniments.



Thank you to all Client Service Staff and volunteers for your steady passion, commitment and service. It remains an honour to work with and learn from you all.

c) **Police:** Staff accompanied 6 survivors, and Crisis Line Volunteers accompanied 3 survivors (total of 9 survivors accompanied) to the police station to submit a statement or initial complaint. Beyond this, we have regular contact with SCU officers, discussing concerns, asking questions on behalf of clients. Many of our clients had already had some involvement with the police prior to attending at SSAIC.

SSAIC **referred 45 survivors** to the Police and RCMP this year and **received 8 referrals from them** (where information was provided).

Respectfully submitted,

Megan Sawyer, Senior Client Worker/Counsellor

The Saskatoon Sexual Assault & Information Centre offers as part of its core services a 24-hour Crisis Line service that is available seven days a week. The goal of the Crisis Line is to provide information, referrals and support to anyone dealing with issues related to a sexual assault, the sexual abuse of children, or adult survivors of childhood sexual violence. Through the Crisis Line we also offer accompaniment and transportation to hospital and police services.

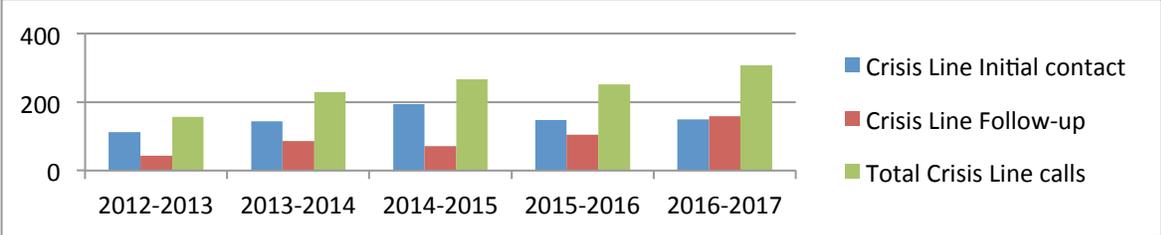
The Crisis Line is staffed by trained volunteers who receive calls in their own homes. The calls are answered and transferred to the volunteers by Tel-J Communications, which is a 24-hour answering service. Volunteers are supported on every shift by a Crisis Line Staff Support worker (senior volunteer), who is paid an honorarium per shift. During office hours SSAIC office staff acts as Staff Support. The Crisis Line Program is staffed by a part-time Crisis Line Coordinator (20 hours/week). This position is supported by a full-time Crisis Line/Office Assistant, who supports a multitude of SSAIC programs.

In the last fiscal year SSAIC had a total of 41 active volunteers, 2 of whom became Staff Support workers during the year. The number of Staff Support workers, for the same time period, remained constant at 7. SSAIC conducted two training sessions throughout the year for new volunteers in our spring and fall sessions training 21 new volunteers.

Over the course of the year, the amount of time dedicated to the SSAIC Crisis Line by all of its volunteers was **16,057 hours for an average of 1,338 hours/month.**

Our Crisis Line received a total of 308 calls during this fiscal year.

Crisis Line Contacts Over the Last Five Years



Volunteer Feedback

“I have learned more in the 30 hours of Volunteer Training than I have in a related university class during one semester.”

“Despite all of this [horrendousness], it was still a great learning experience, and I look forward to being [able] to help more people through awful situations like this.”

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Gsell-Danilkewich, Crisis Line Coordinator

PUBLIC EDUCATION REPORT

2016/17 proved to be an extremely busy year in terms of public education. **SSAIC provided 263 workshops, seminars, resource fair displays, puppetry recruiting presentations and volunteer training sessions to approximately 6,800 participants in Saskatoon and surrounding areas**, totaling 315.5 presentation hours this year. This resulted in 20% more presentation hours, 30% more presentations, and 42% more people reached. Indeed it was a busy year.

The table below describes the target audiences, number of presentations and number of participants who were present.

Totals 2016-2017	# of Presentations		# of Participants
	2015/16	2016/17	
Elementary Schools - general	6	16	377
Elementary schools "I'm the Boss of Me"	107	113	3,029
High Schools	5	7	151
University/Colleges	22	28	580
Agency/Group clients/Program	10	14	164
Professionals	13	18	245
Other	45	67	2,238
TOTAL	208	263	6,802

"You provided information about statistics, definition of sexual assault, talked about consent, helped me understand the impact of sexual assault on the victims, but also on us as service providers. Good use of stories, great opportunity for interaction."

- Participant, Police Translator program

"Thank you for coming in to talk with us. Your insights were very eye opening and had a major impact on me. I have really been thinking about your volunteer opportunities since you came in! With everything you presented, you actually made me feel comfortable having a discussion with my mom about the sexual abuse she faced as a young adult, and it really brought my mom and me even closer together! Thank-You!"

-University student

Resources Distributed: We not only share resources with each presentation that we conduct, but also receive frequent requests for our resources from a variety of programs and services throughout the city and province. **SSAIC distributed approximately 7,379 educational materials this fiscal year.** In addition, we provide some links to online resources for specific presentations.

"I'm the Boss of Me" Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Program completed its 11th season, growing again this year, both in terms of number of classroom presentations, and number of students who participated. We delivered **113 presentations in both Public and Catholic school division classrooms, reaching 3,029 grade four students.** The program is designed for Grade 4 classrooms and includes a puppet show, using "children-like" puppets who discuss an incident that happens to one of the puppets; this is followed by small group discussion to teach children about sexual abuse and how to ask for help if this is happening to them. Teachers who book the presentation also receive a sexual abuse training package with lesson plans as well as the Provincial Child Abuse Protocol. Teachers are asked to prepare

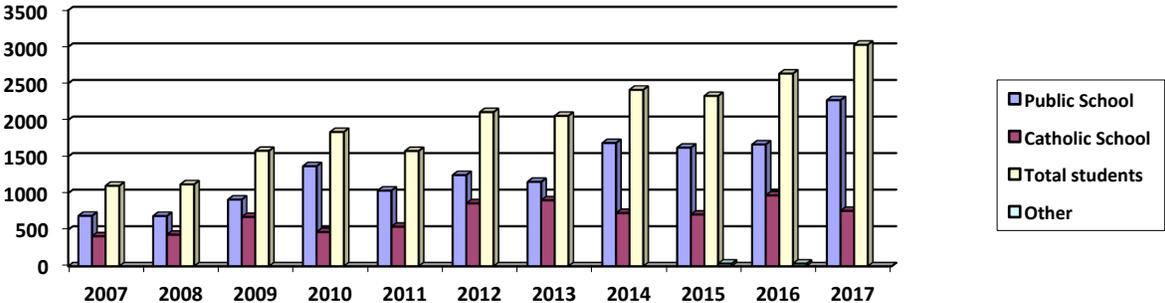
the children with an introductory lesson prior to our presentation. We work closely with school counselling and social work teams who receive regular updates on where and when we are making presentations and are invited to attend.

“I’m the Boss” involved 51 puppeteers that came from colleges of Education, Nursing, Social Work and Arts and Sciences, and the “I’m the Boss of Me” Program would not be possible without these participants. This program provides excellent training/career development.

“I think it is fair to say that volunteering has impacted me personally; it has gotten me involved in my community, and has impacted me professionally. Specifically, it has impacted my future career, in choosing to become a psychologist and researcher, with a focus on trauma and families by highlighting the need for and importance of education and prevention of sexual abuse.”

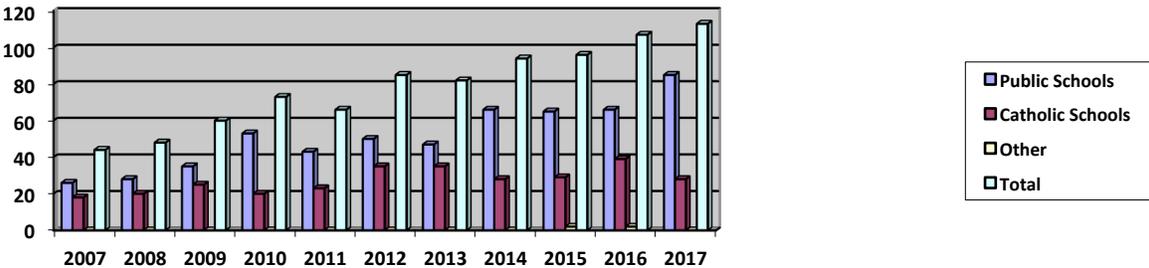
- Narrator and puppeteer

Number of Children who participated in “I’m the Boss of Me”



2017 – Public schools – 2,271, Catholic schools – 758; Total; 3,029 children

Number of “I’m the Boss of Me” Shows Presented



2017 – Public Schools – 85, Catholic Schools – 28: Total of 113 shows

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Pocock, Public Education Coordinator

CLIENT INFORMATION AND STATISTICS

Client Numbers

1. New Clients

We had 456 new clients contact us for services this year.

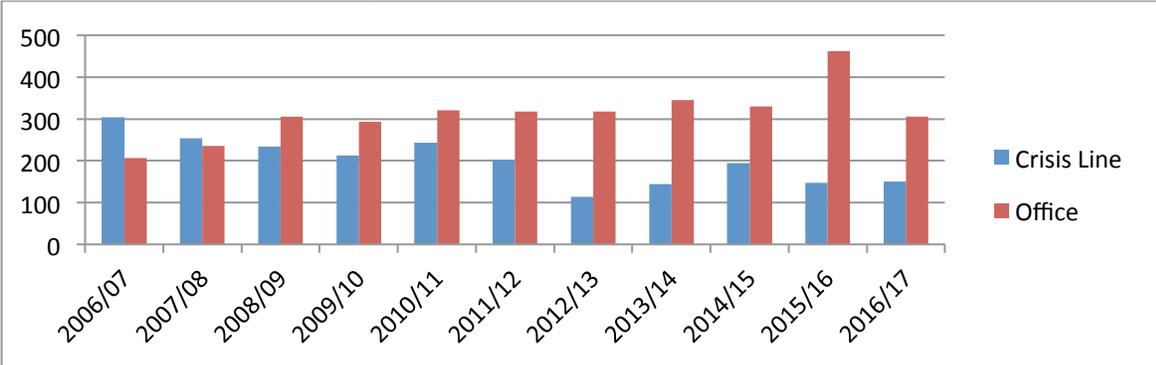
2. Follow-up Contacts

There were **2,074 follow-up service contacts** provided to clients. Follow up services include Crisis Line calls from individuals who have contacted our office/crisis line previously, attend individual counselling sessions, or attend a group counselling program. The contacts are recorded as units of service, not as individual clients with each contact time counted separately. We had 1,887 follow up contacts for service last year. This represents a **10% increased demand for follow-up services** from last year. Clients are staying with us for more follow up services than they have in the past.

Counselling – (Adult Survivors)	742
Counselling – Other	779
Accessed Crisis Line	158
Group support contacts	384
Group – other	<u>11</u>
Total follow up contacts	2,074

How Clients Contact Us

INITIAL CLIENT CONTACT: comparison to 2016-2017 CRISIS LINE AND OFFICE CALLS



The ways clients initially contact our office has changed in recent years. Whereas the majority of our clients’ first contact used to be through the crisis line, most now call our office during office hours for their first contact. The number of initial client calls to our Crisis Line has been generally decreasing over the last 9 years.

In response to this change we have revised our office process and to ensure that we have a counsellor available to manage intake calls and walk-in clients during our office hours.

PRIMARY vs SECONDARY CLIENTS

SSAIC attended 384 primary survivors and 72 secondary survivors of sexual violence, totaling **456 new clients this year**. Primary survivors are those against whom a criminal act of sexual violence was perpetrated. Secondary survivors are individuals who are close to the victims, who support the survivor in dealing with the sexual assault. They can be mothers, fathers, husbands and wives, boyfriends and girlfriends, partners, brothers and sisters, relatives and friends.

CULTURAL IDENTITY

Of the 456 new clients we saw this year:

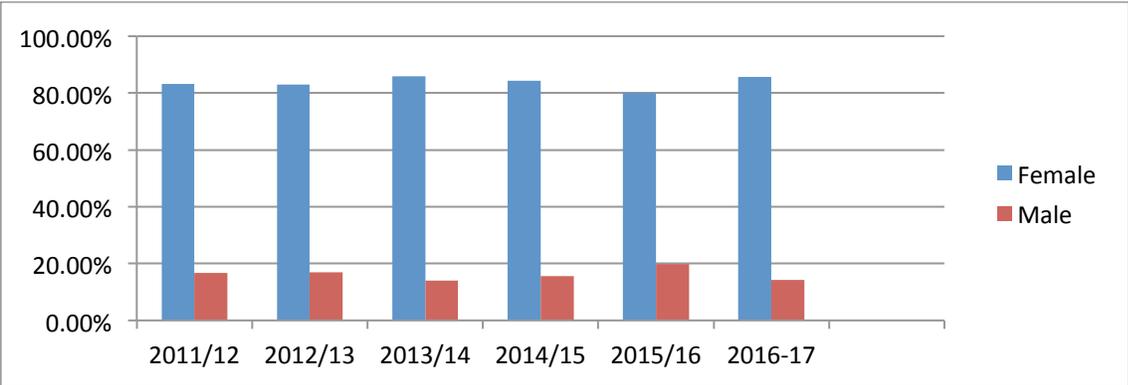
- 134 (29.3%) declared being Caucasian/other
- 109 (23.9%) declared themselves as of Aboriginal/Metis descent
- 20 (4.4%) as Immigrants/Refugees

There was no data about the cultural background of 193 (42.4%) clients.

Note: Data collection through the crisis line is limited, and continues to be scarce with regard to specific information such as cultural identity.

CLIENT BY GENDER: (Annual Comparison 2011-12 to 2016-17)

With regard to gender of clients, 85.9% (392) were females and 14.1% (65) were males. Sexual assault affects everyone, women, men, girls, and boys. Sexual assault is and remains primarily a gender issue with women and girls remaining most at risk of being victimized.



TYPES OF ASSAULT AFFECTING ALL CLIENTS (NEW AND EXISTING)

One common misconception about our service is that we serve only those who have recently been sexually assaulted. The reality is that many people do not reach out for help immediately following a sexual assault. Most survivors who are not visibly physically injured, tell no one. Many survivors don't seek out support services until the impacts of the assault are impairing their physical or mental health or preventing them from continuing to go to work or school. This may not be until weeks, months or years after the assault occurred.

Many of our clients are adult survivors of an **assault or repeated assaults that happened to them when they were children**. Some may have decided that the survival and coping strategies they have been using to cope with the abuse are not working or are no longer healthy for them. Some have buried their memories and can no longer function while doing so.

The chart below provides a breakdown of types of assaults experienced by those clients who disclosed this information to us in 2016-2017.

Adult Sexual Assault (past and recent):	161	35.3 %
Adult Survivor of Childhood Sexual Abuse:	143	31.4 %
Child Sexual Abuse/Incest:	73	16.0 %
Sexual Harassment:	5	1.1 %
Domestic Violence:	3	.7 %
Other: (sexual acting, sexual exploration, undisclosed):	<u>71</u>	<u>15.5 %</u>
Total	456	100.0 %

DATA ON PERPETRATORS: RELATIONSHIP OF OFFENDERS to VICTIMS/SURVIVORS

SSAIC collected information provided by survivors regarding perpetrators of sexualized violence. Of 384 primary victims, 310 (80.5%) provided information about the offender. The table below shows the relationship rate between offender and victims. Individuals are usually sexually assaulted by someone they know. Our data shows that 18% of the survivors, **who provided information**, were sexually assaulted by a stranger.

Relationship of Offenders to Victims/Survivors, 2016-2017



Family: Parent - 36, Relative - 65, Partner/spouse - 14	= 115 (29.9%)
Known: Acquaintance – 73, Babysitter – 4, Ex – 7, Date – 9, Friend – 20, Trust – 24	= 137 (35.7%)
Stranger:	= 58 (15.1%)
Other: Unknown / information not provided	= 74 (19.3%)
Total number of clients who shared identity of offenders	384

We have been monitoring the relationships between Offenders and Victims/Survivors for several years, and there has been little change over time.

SSAIC 2016-2017 VOLUNTEERS

We extend a special thank you to our valuable volunteers who assist us daily in meeting the goals of this agency. We would not be able to provide our programs and services without them.

Crisis Line Volunteers

Adrienne Herman	Jessica Hurtubise	Natasha Salaash
Alana Demkiw	John Boersma	Nicole Hoffos
Alana Nelson	Jonah Egan-Pimblett	Paulina Chatlain
Allison Morgan	Jordan Hartshorn	Payten Jackson
Ashley Keck	Justin Bierwagen	Robyn Peter
Ashley Marie Wiebe	Kari Duerksen	Samantha Hopfner
Aurora Bors	Katrina Gough	Samantha Shier
Brianna Garvin	Kerry Klassen	Sarah Nickel
Brittany Yaganiski	Lacie Munholland	Selina Mak
Cassidy Pirlot	Lana McAleer	Serena Liu
Chase Danychuk	Lindsey Gibbings	Shiza Basit
Chelsea Sawatzky	Madeline Docherty	Stefanie Long
Darren Tetlow	Marcie Dupuis	Tanner Gattinger
Eve Keller	Maria Cerda	Tatiana Ntube Salley
Felicia Chen	Mariel Marciniak	Tessa Martens
Gordon Koop	Mary Friesen	Thyla Mula
Hannah Crease-MacLean	Megan Evans	Zainab Ahmed
Jean Goerzen	Meghan Johnston	
Jennifer Gulka	Monique Koskie	

“I’m the Boss of Me” Child Sexual Abuse Prevention Program Puppetry Volunteers

NARRATORS:	Courtney Chupa	Lauren Michelman
Christie McGregor	Courtney Johnston	Leila (Le) Tang
Denae Pellerin	Ellen Mae-Melin	Madeleine Froehlich
Jane Galbreath	Emiley Darlington	Mara Doepker
Jessica Zagrodny	Emilia Thibaudeau	Maria Olenick
Megan Shpyth	Heather Crooks	Maryam Tariq
Robyn Peter	Iva Henry	Matthew Reichert
PUPPETEERS:	Jenna Engelbrecht	Michael van der Kamp
Allison Track	Jordan Feher	Mitchell Wrishko
Alyson Hastings	Kailee Weber	Monica Judkins
Alyssa Zaderey	Kaitlyn Taylor	Morgan Wieggers
Angela Beatty	Kalyna Kryworuchko	Samantha den Hollander
Atira Mihalicz	Kassidy MacPherson	Sloan Zhang
Billy Lee McIntyre	Katie Vick	Stacey Spader
Camille Jansen	Katlynn Makowichuk	Stephanie Siemens
Cassie Van Camp	Keagan Cockerill	Taylor Halliday
Chase Danychuk	Kennedy Cooke	Yulissa Campos
Chiamaka Edokwe	Lara Eberle (Quinn)	



*Saskatoon Sexual Assault
& Information Centre*

#201-506-25th St. East

Saskatoon, S7K 4A7

Ph: 306-244-2294

Crisis Line: 306-244-2224

Email: ssaic@sasktel.net

Website: www.saskatoonsexualassaultcentre.com



Funded by:

