### North Coast RAPE CRISIS TEAM FALL NEWSLETTER



# ITER NOVEMBER 2023

### A LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**SEPTEMBER 2023** 

I am beyond excited to introduce North Coast Rape Crisis Team and my teammates! We are a mighty and tenacious bunch of advocates who cover an area the size of Connecticut. We are committed to showing up for survivors, both in the acute crisis of the disclosure of abuse, and in the sometimes long, complicated road to healing. We assist those who support survivors to reshape healing families. Some say this is hard work, but we are inspired and motivated by the resiliency, bravery, and heart of the survivors we serve. If you feel the same, please join us in the work to prevent and intervene in sexualized violence in Humboldt and Del Norte counties.

(Imanda LeBlanc

Sincerely,

### SUMMER OF OUTREACH -KORA SHOEMAKER

Some say our outreach team has the most fun in our agency- and they're right! We are lucky enough to get out of the office and get into the community, meeting people face to face. Throughout summer we make sure to plan as many outreach events as possible, and this summer we were invited to spend multiple days tabling at both The Mateel Community Center's Summer Arts and Music Festival and Northern Nights. These events mostly involve tabling, where we bring various informational brochures, flyers, fun stickers, and activities to engage the community in the prevention of sexual assault. It is great to be able to connect with community members, talk about prevention, and work towards improving the safety of both Del Norte and Humboldt County.







mcrct.org

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<u>Del Norte</u> 24 hour hotline: (707) 465-2851 983 3rd Street, Suite A Crescent City, CA 95531 <u>Humboldt</u> 4 hour hotline: (707) 445-288 425 | Street Arcata, CA 95521

# BY THE NUMBERS

# DURING OUR 22-23 GRANT YEAR....

We served 743 survivors

We served 219 loved ones

We responded to 1525 crisis calls

We provided 200 peer counseling sessions

We facilitated 2 support groups attended by a total of 12 survivors

We provided in person Crisis Intervention 479 times

We provided education at 49 professional events to 679 people

We tabled at **61** community events and provided information on our services to **2759** people

We held 32 meetings with student leaders at various schools

We facilitated oprevention campaigns/events on high school campuses

We provided Rape Prevention Education to 625 students and 6 teachers

These numbers are combined to represent services provided across both Del Norte and Humboldt Counties



NCRCT's
Prevention
Education
Team

Did you know?
We now offer a crisis text line!
Available M-F 8:30-4:30 (707)~382-5174

#### **NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT CONFERENCE 2023**

#### -REBECCA BELTON



In August, four of our teammates traveled to San Francisco to attend the National Sexual Assault Conference hosted by ValorUS. Thes training included topics centered around PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act), prevention, education, and child sexual abuse. This was a wonderful opportunity to learn from experts and bring information back to the team to help with client services and education programming. We also were able to meet other people working within sexual assault services and learn about different resources available to survivors.

### 12TH ANNUAL SART SUMMIT

#### -MARLENE BAUTISTA

NCRCT assembled a multidisciplinary team to increase teamwork when someone reports sexualized violence. 12 advocates, law enforcement officers and DA investigators, prosecutors, and district attorneys from both Humboldt and Del Norte Counties attended the 12th annual SART (Sexual Assault Response Team) Summit of the California Clinical Forensic Medical Training Center in San Diego. This Summit featured representatives from law enforcement, prosecutors, victim advocates, criminalists, and forensic medical evidential examiners, with the aim of educating and uniting all fields involved in sexual assault and interpersonal violence. We had the opportunity to strengthen our ties with the local organizations and network with others who support survivors and work in related fields throughout California.



# THANK YOU

to our friends at **The Heights Casino** for supporting our Mission and the work that we do!

NCRCT staff and Board of Directors Chair accepting a donation at The Heights, 10/2/23

## WHERE WERE WE THIS SUMMER?

6/23-6/25 Summer Arts and Music Festival

7/14-7/16 Northern Nights

7/26 North Star Quest Camp

7/29 DN Community Health Fair

8/1 North Star Quest Camp

8/9 BBQ Block Party

8/10 Cal Poly Humboldt RA Training

8/12 Del Norte Youth and Family Fair

8/14 CPH Orientation

8/18 College of the Redwoods Consent Workshop

8/18 CPH Resource Fair

8/25 CR Consent Workshop

9/6 CPH Community Belonging Fair

9/9 Recovery Happens Picnic

9/10 Suicide Awareness Walk

9/12 CR Health and Safety Workshop

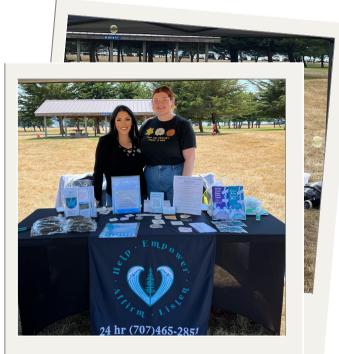
9/16 CR Festejando Nuestra Comunidad

9/28 CPH RAMP Title IX Training



Recovery Happens Picnic 9/9/23

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Del Norte Community Health Fair 17/29/23

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

12/12 Del Norte Office Open House!

4:00 pm - 6:00 pm 983 3rd Street, Suite A, Crescent City

Come meet the team and tour our new community-oriented office and counseling space!

Keep an eye out for information about an upcoming fundraiser in our next newsletter!



### INCREASING AWARENESS, INCREASING SERVICES

-IVY STEBBINS

In September 2022, we moved our Humboldt office from a confidential location in Eureka to a new space in Arcata. We created an open, community-oriented location where survivors or loved ones can come in and receive walk-in crisis intervention services. We also established new protocols to respond to every CAST (Child Abuse Services Team) Interview scheduled for minor survivors, and, as the Campus Advocate Team (contracted with Cal Poly Humboldt) started Drop-In hours at our campus office. After billboards went up (see page 6) and advertisements went

out, we saw an 84% increase in numbers of survivors served from our first quarter to our last quarter, with 144 survivors served during our first quarter of the year, and 265 during the last quarter. Our staff proudly sport new uniforms, often getting recogniszed in the community. NCRCT recognizes that an increase in service calls does not mean that the rate of harm has increased, it means that people who may not have known about our services are now calling us for support. We don't want to need to know anyone in this capacity, but we feel honored to be a part of a survivor's healing journey. We are a committed team to responding to the hospital in the middle of the night, we will continue to show up when called.

#### VOLUNTEER UPDATES

In September 2023 we began our third volunteer training cohort since the program was created in 2022. Our program offers 60+ hours of the California State Certified Sexual Assault Counselor Training. On October 19th, we saw the graduation of 4 volunteers and 2 new part-time staff members. From October 2022 to September 2023, our past and current volunteers have contributed **2986.5** hours of coverage for our 24-hour hotlines.

If you or someone you know wants to take an active role in supporting survivors of sexualized violence, please consider applying to one of our future trainings!

#### NCRCT IN THE NEWS

#### <u>Growing Pains with Nicholas Flores</u>

bit.ly/3YnaMTZ

In July, our Education Coordinator Kira Morse and PREA Coordinator Makhi Hamor met with Nicholas Flores to talk about our services, the court process, victim blaming, toxic relationships and manipulation, and more.

#### North Coast Conversations

bit.ly/3YjcfdM

Bilingual Specialist Maria Sepulveda spoke about our drink spiking survey on North Coast Conversations, a program hosted by Alejandro Zepeda on KHSU.

#### Redwood News

https://bit.ly/3qjACM0

After seeing one of our billboards, Karina Ramos Villalobos from Redwood News reached out to do a segment on our Volunteer Program recruitment. Maria provided information on our services and the logistics of the Volunteer Program.

Campus Advocate
Team Drop In Hours:
Tuesdays 10-12
Wednesdays 3-5
Located in The

Cal Poly Humboldt

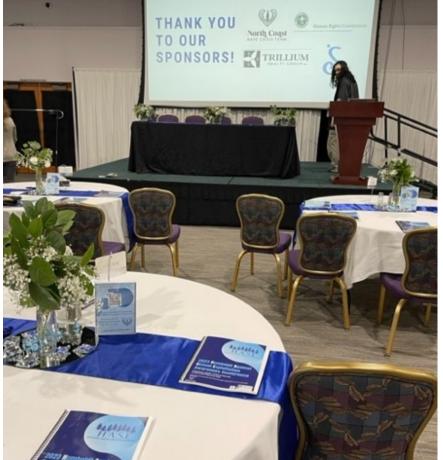
Feurwerker House
131 Mill Street, Arcata
Entrance is on UKWood
Boulevard

Want to help but don't have time to volunteer? Please consider making a tax deductible donation to help our agency provide resources to survivors.

For more information or to donate online, go to <a href="MCRCT.ORG/DONATE">MCRCT.ORG/DONATE</a>





















1-Our new billboard in Arcata on 101 South 2-Maria at a Day of The Dead celebration in November. 3-Kira and Maria tabling at Northern Nights in July. 4-Photo from the first annual Humboldt Against Sexual Exploitation (H.A.S.E.) Conference, a collaboration between NCRCT and Empower, Protect & Invest (EPI) in May. 5-Day of the Dead Ofrenda honoring both staff's loved ones, and those who's lives were lost due to sexualized violence in November. 6-Education and Outreach Manager Kira Morse and Client Services Manager Marlene Bautista in Chicago for the 2023 EVAWI (End Violence Against Women International) Conference in April. 7-Part-Time Advocate Ariana and her family at the Del Norte Community Health Fair in July. 8-Custom sign for the Arcata office created by WoodLab Designs. 9-Billboard south of Crescent City 10. NCRCT staff in September.