

ACTION STATEMENTS

1. Ask your supervisor if you can review your workplace policies on sexual harassment and workplace violence. Offer to update them or create them if they don't exist.
2. Volunteer to be on an institutional or organizational policy review committee.
3. Create a hospital incident report system to discourage behaviors that promote sexual violence.
4. Create zero-tolerance policies for your service organization or faith-based institution.
5. Volunteer to present in-services or grand rounds on primary sexual violence prevention topics.
6. Participate in new employee orientation to present primary prevention definitions, healthy relationships and challenge bystander behavior.
7. Write articles on primary sexual violence prevention for your organization's newsletter; or other community, state or national publications.
8. Include primary prevention in SART education/training.
9. Work with your organization's administration to provide regionalized primary prevention education to healthcare providers of all the affiliate hospitals, clinics and universities.
10. Meet with your legislative representative and discuss sexual violence as a public health issue.
11. Testify before legislative committees to support funding for sexual violence primary prevention.
12. Work with your state or regional IAFN chapter to partner with minority nurses' associations (e.g. National Black Nurses' Association <http://www.nbna.org> , National Association of Hispanic Nurses <http://thehispanicnurses.org> , National Coalition of Ethnic Minority Nurses' Association <http://www.ncemna.org>) to collaborate on prevention messages that reach communities of color.
13. Ask to be placed on the school board agenda to discuss sexual violence prevention in schools. Research what is currently being offered or not offered in schools.
14. Ask your local service organizations (i.e. Rotary, Lions Club) to write letters of support for legislative bills effecting sexual violence.
15. Develop a plan with clearly articulated steps for connecting with specific communities in your region via cultural organizations, clubs or professional ethnic organizations.
16. Join your state anti-sexual violence coalition, or better yet, run for its board of directors.
17. Find out if your health department has a sexual violence prevention task force and join it.
18. Approach offender treatment programs to collaborate on community prevention activities.
19. Ask your hospital if you can represent them on community boards to promote violence prevention.
20. Create a Yahoo (or other) news group to allow community members the opportunity to easily share prevention resources and upcoming events.
21. Hoping to reach a new audience? Volunteer to talk about your work and the importance of primary prevention at community education forums put on by local libraries.
22. Advocate for increased funding to promote primary sexual violence research within universities and institutions.
23. Develop a patient handout on the role that men can play to prevent sexual violence and give to everyone being treated in the emergency department. Create them in a variety of languages appropriate for your region. No time to create handouts from scratch? Partner with local organizations that have created materials and ask to distribute them in your organization.
24. Develop assessment tools and protocols for screening patients who are at risk of sexually inappropriate or abusive behaviors and acts. Work with staff to talk to patients about these risk factors and what staff (or patients?) can do when they identify them in a family member (e.g. how to create the protective factors necessary; where to seek the help they may need for themselves or their family member)
25. Attend a civic or cultural event in your community and have a booth (or hand stamp or flier) about sexual violence prevention.

This project was completed in conjunction with the grant "Enhancing Healthcare Providers Ability to Prevent Sexual Violence", funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Grant #US4/CCU224946. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FORENSIC NURSES

Primary Sexual Violence Prevention Project



<http://www.iafn.org/project/projPrevention.cfm>

Road Map for Integrating Primary Prevention into Nursing Practice

Forensic nurses come in contact with a variety of patients across the clinical spectrum. Although our work is focused on caring for patients after violence has been perpetrated, there are a variety of opportunities to be part of the violence prevention effort, as well.

For more information about the IAFN's Primary Sexual Violence Prevention project, including valuable online links and an annotated bibliography, please visit our website:

<http://www.iafn.org/project/projPrevention.cfm>



1. Develop individual prevention skills:

- Recognize and challenge behaviors that promote sexual violence (racism, sexism, classism, heterosexism, ableism)
- Encourage healthy and respectful relationships in both professional and personal lives
- Learn to identify risk factors for sexually abusive behaviors

2. Seek opportunities to promote sexual violence prevention in your communities

- Faith organizations
- Service organizations (e.g. boy scouts, Lion's Club)
- Schools
- Multicultural or culturally-specific organizations

3. Incorporate primary sexual violence prevention strategies into healthcare provider education:

- Defining primary prevention roles
- Challenging bystander behavior
- Discussing healthy relationships
- Focusing on offender rather than victim behaviors

This road map is based on the Prevention Institute's *Spectrum of Prevention*. For more information, please visit their website at www.preventioninstitute.org

4. Collaborate with individuals and organizations to strengthen and promote community-wide sexual violence prevention

- Expand collaborative relationships beyond victim service organizations
- Create relationships with local businesses and corporations to promote sexual violence prevention messages
- Create relationships with members of your local and national media so that they will call upon you when creating stories related to sexual assault.
- Seek out partnering opportunities with leaders of underserved and vulnerable groups who can help craft and spread prevention message

5. Identify areas within your healthcare institution or organization that can integrate primary sexual violence prevention principles

- Create zero tolerance policies for workplace violence and sexual harassment
- Modify mission statements
- Encourage whistle-blower protections

6. Advocate for public policy changes to prioritize sexual violence prevention and support efforts to create a world without violence.

- Educate local, state, and national policy makers about sexual violence issues
- Contact your elected officials to support public funding for sexual violence primary prevention
- Volunteer for government affairs committees for nursing and other organizations to monitor legislation that impacts sexual violence