

RAPE CRISIS AND SEXUAL ABUSE COUNSELLING
CENTRE SLIGO, LEITRIM AND WEST CAVAN
ANNUAL REPORT 2010

INTRODUCTION

There are adults everywhere who have experienced some form of sexual violence either as a child or adult. The unacceptability of sexual violence and the devastating effects of such traumatic experiences have long been recognised by the Rape Crisis Movement resulting in Rape Crisis Centres being set up to address both the needs of survivors of sexual violence and the causes of sexual violence in our society. The Rape Crisis Movement has its roots in feminism and believes that sexual violence is a result of the power imbalance and role differences between men, women and children within our society.

The Centre was originally established in 1996 as a local response to sexual violence within the region. Our geographical remit is essentially the regions of Sligo, Leitrim and West Cavan. Previous to its establishment the nearest Rape Crisis Centre was the Mayo Rape Crisis Centre, Castlebar Co. Mayo. The Centre is a member of the Rape Crisis Network Ireland.

HOW WE WORK

The Centre provides a safe, confidential space for survivors of child sexual abuse, rape and sexual assault where adults and young people can explore and access help with the legacy of issues resulting from their traumatic experiences. The centre provides a non-directive service where survivors are treated with respect and empowered through out their counselling process, this process is underpinned by the belief that everyone has the inner capacity and resources to move towards change, and well being. We believe that no matter what the circumstances sexual violence is never the survivor's fault, the perpetrator is always solely responsible for their actions. This ethos is reflected in our following vision statement:

Key Principles

Sexual violence in all its forms is an abuse of human rights and should never be accepted.

To provide a model of good practice in our centre and for our clients.

To ensure clients volunteer and staff are treated with respect and dignity.

To underpin our work with the following values: empowerment, equality, inclusiveness and mutual support.

To take a proactive approach in the area of sexual violence; providing education on the dynamics behind sexual violence, the effects upon survivors and society's reactions.

Mission Statement

Our purpose is to create a safe place for those who have experienced sexual violence recently or in the past

We provide when required:

- *Counselling and emergency advocacy,*
- *Awareness and training to support other agencies who are working with survivors*

We are also committed to challenging the tolerance and very existence of sexual violence

WHAT WE DO

The response of the Centre to the issues of sexual violence is to provide the following services:

- ❖ Crisis counselling
- ❖ Ongoing face to face counselling
- ❖ Free phone helpline
- ❖ Support, advocacy and information for survivors, in particular around legal issues
- ❖ Relationship counselling
- ❖ Survivors support group
- ❖ Counselling, support and information for supporters of survivors
- ❖ Hospital, court, GP, garda accompaniment
- ❖ Education, training and awareness-raising
- ❖ Lobbying and influencing policy on relevant issues through the Rape Crisis Network Ireland
- ❖ Networking, experience and information sharing with other relevant voluntary and statutory organisations.

WHO WE ARE

Members of the Centre are as follows:

Gilla Cornelius
Elaine Hanson
Tina Horton
Joan Mullan
Mary Roche
Kate Duke
Dolores Byrne
Ursula Devaney
Margaret Thermes
Rosaleen Killgannon
Rita McNulty
Mary Manandhar
Cynthia Adubango

Directors

The following members were appointed and retained as Directors at the Annual General Meeting on April 21st 2010

Joan Mullan (Secretary)
Mary Roche
Kate Duke
Ursula Devaney (Chair)
Rita McNulty
Mary Manandhar (joined Oct 10th 2010)
Cynthia Adubango (joined Oct 10th 2010)

Volunteers

Joan Mullan
Mary Roche
Kate Duke
Dolores Byrne
Ursula Devaney
Margaret Thermes
Rosaleen Killgannon
Mary Manandhar
Cynthia Adubango

Staff

Counsellor: *Gilla Cornelius*
Administrator/Counsellor: *Elaine Hanson*
Co-ordinator/Counsellor: *Tina Horton*

DEVELOPMENT TO DATE

The Centre has developed substantially during the last 14 years both as an organisation and in terms of the services it offers. Initially funding was secured from both, the Programme for Peace and Reconciliation and the Health Service Executive.

The Centre has established itself as both a limited company and registered charity and obtained rented premises in central Sligo. The centre was officially opened by Ms Mary Wallace, T.D in 1999.

Further developments have been established in terms of staff and volunteer personnel within the centre. Throughout this period we have secured paid employment in relation to certain roles within the centre while still maintaining invaluable voluntary input. All members have undergone the extensive Rape Crisis Network Ireland Training and many have gone on to do further counselling training. The Centre is committed to providing further training to its members in order to provide a competent, professional service. Counsellors are accredited with such bodies as the Rape Crisis Network Ireland, The Irish Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy, The British Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy. The Centre is a member of the Irish Association of Counselling and Psychotherapy.

We have developed a four year Strategic Plan for 2008 –2011 and are committed to continuously reviewing and refining our service provision and operation.

DEVELOPMENT WITHIN YEAR 2010

Client Base

In relation to face-to-face client contact there was a decrease in face to face clients of 4% in 2010 in comparison to 2009. However there has been an increase in the number of counselling sessions provided of 7% in 2010 in comparison with 2009.

The gender profile changes with a decrease in male clients from 16% in 2009 to 10% in 2010.

20% of our clients were 23 years and under. The most common age was 30-39 years forming 28% of our client base.

74% of our clients are Irish citizens, 9% were other EU citizens 15% were Asylum Seekers or had Permanent Leave to Remain status.

In 2010 the Centre has continued to support asylum seekers and refugees in the Sligo region. This support includes counselling, information and advocacy, particularly in relation to current and future status within Ireland and also accompaniment to various agencies. The type of abuse we are hearing about is changing with prostitution, trafficking, female genital mutilation, forced marriage, kidnapping and gang rape by military forces often forming part of their stories. Counselling is offered in different European languages. We have also helped in the process of integration finding courses and work placements in the local area.

We form part of a wider community support network responding to refugees and asylum seekers being a member of Diversity Sligo and working in close association with Globe House, Youth Information Centre and Sligo Social Services.

Survivors of child sexual abuse and incest form almost half of the people who avail of the centres services at 50% of all clients.

Our figures show that at least 76% of perpetrators are known to the survivor and this would mirror national and international statistics.

In terms of referral the centre needs to continue to build on connections with other agencies in particular the Gardai and Hospital as the statistics show that the numbers of referrals from these agencies are still low. 41% of our clients self refer.

47% of clients also avail of our advocacy services.

36% of our clients reported to the Gardai. The RCNI estimates that 95% of reported cases do not make trial and the recent SAVI Report (2002, Dublin RCC) shows that less than 10% of survivors report a crime of sexual violence. Evidently the vast majority of sexual crime is not reported or not taken forward to trial and this is a situation rape crisis centres want to see changed by calling for legislative reform that makes the whole legal process an easier, quicker, more supportive and informed experience for complainants of sexual crime.

Survivors Group

The following is an extract from the Facilitators Report by Rosaleen Killgannon:

During 2010 we continued to run the survivors group in response to clients identifying that being part of a support group would be of benefit to them. The group had 10 participants and ran for 2.5 hours over 20 weeks with 2 Rape Crisis Counsellors facilitating the group. The following are extracts from the report provided by the facilitators:

The new group consisted of 10 members. On the first evening we drew up a new contract on procedures and the importance of confidentiality. We encouraged the group members to take part in the exercise to ensure they had input in setting ground rules. We discussed the rotation of facilitators in the future.

It was decided that we start each meeting with a meditation by the facilitators followed by members sharing their feelings and recent experiences should they wish.

Initially we did exercises such as placing objects in centre of room and inviting each person choose what they felt drawn to, painting , drawing and healing cards which helped people explore and get in touch with their feelings. It took a little while for new members to build up trust however they confirmed that hearing other people's stories and their expressions of feelings such as sadness and anger helped them a lot in acknowledging their own feelings.

We worked with themes that arose from previous meetings. The themes shared were families, lack of trust, relationships, low self-esteem, anger, sadness, separateness, sexuality, connecting, honesty, strength, inner child issues.

The following is some feedback received from group members:

'Listening to other peoples experiences, I feel I learned a lot.'

'I loved the meditation at the beginning. I loved the free style where there wasn't a strict agenda each night.'

‘A very helpful and positive experience and am just ready to go deeper and would request that the group restarts soon in the New Year. Thank You’

Training

VEC Listening Skills Training for Women Seeking Asylum

The following is an extract from the Trainers Report by Gilla Cornelius:

In 2010 we received the first VEC funding for 70 hours listening skills programme to women seeking asylum or having received refugee status. We commenced the programme with the women on the 7th May and ended on the 12th of November 2010. The training took place on Friday mornings from 9.15-12.15. The initial group consisted of 10 women of whom 8 women have received their Listening Skills Certificate in November 2010.

The training programme started off with a general overview of different forms of sexual violence, discussing experiences from different cultures, human rights issues and feminist views. At an early stage we focussed on listening skills training following the Rogerian model and feminist counselling, offered personal experiential work and practiced listening in dyads and triads and the full group.

From session 6 on we moved into more details around rape and child sexual abuse, always with our focus on a global picture to integrate what was happening in the home countries of our participants for example abuse of witch children and child prostitution. Following this, when women felt more safe and connected, we looked at difficult feelings and emotions like anger, shame, grief, fear, depression, happiness and love. At that stage the group was very open and trusting. Women were also very open to work with their sexuality and different forms of domestic violence. The issue of racism, initially planned for a morning, led into 3 mornings working with conflict, difference and equality. There was huge personal and professional learning in those sessions, which ended in the group becoming very connected. The personal development and personal connections seem to be most important outcome to the women, the trust in the group, friendships, the practice of mutual respect and acceptance, the non judgemental listening, the concept of diversity and equality and honesty to look at racism.

As part of the training women were given evaluation sheets and also short essays to integrate their personal and professional learnings.

Titles were:

1. How I have changed with the listening skills training- in the way I think- feel- in my body awareness-in how I relate to people
2. How could I use the listening skills training if I went back home?
...What beliefs about sexual violence exist in my area at home

...What obstacles might I meet trying to help survivors
...What community links might be helpful

3. How I like to use listening skills training in Ireland

Some Feedback of Trainees:

'The listening skill training has changed my life and my mood greatly. Before the training I was depressed, down and confused about life. I didn't have anybody to express my feelings to, didn't know who to trust.'

'When I started the training my whole life became normal. Initially I thought I was the only one with problems. When we started sharing our ideas and what we went through in life I was relieved. I felt great after sharing my problems.'

'I am enjoying every part of the sessions. I have changed the way I look out on things. If I get the chance I would start such programmes for those who need the services back home. I appreciate the way the facilitators are working with the group, they are well prepared and have inspired me a lot.'

'I come from Zimbabwe and the rate of sexual abuse is very high, but in many areas it is justified in so many ways that it becomes a way of life rather than a crime. Most of the times victims of sexual abuse never speak up because of the fear of bringing shame to their families. In most cases they are abused by their close relatives and there is never anyone trustworthy they can confide in'

'In my country we can try to get women in politics to support the work . We need to find a place where people meet for social events that will be a starting point in raising awareness. We need to introduce women's rights organizations in all parts of the country especially the under developed areas.'

Strategic Planning and Evaluation

The Strategic Plan for 2008-2011 consists of 5 goals covering; development and expansion of core services, working with key agencies to promote our understanding of sexual violence, further develop organisational structures and systems, uphold supportive and accountable volunteer and employment policies and gain, maintain and account for core and additional funding. Within 2010 we continually monitored the plan through Staff and Board of Directors meetings looking at what has been achieved and priorities for the future.

In terms of evaluation a service users questionnaire has been developed providing an opportunity for medium to long-term clients to express qualitative feedback on our counselling service. Through this process the client's experience of our service will inform our present way of working and future developments planned.

A formal appraisal system has also been implemented for staff and volunteers. Team building also provides an opportunity for evaluation of how we work together.

During 2010 we held a whole team evaluation day with an external facilitator where we looked at how the Volunteers, Board and Staff work together to implement the Strategic Plan, recommendations were made and have been integrated into our current Strategic Plan.

In terms of data collection on clients the RCNI database now informs the statistical part of this report and provides new insight into details and trends.

Volunteer Activity

1174 voluntary hours were provided in 2010. Volunteer involvement ranges from provision of face to face therapy, helpline cover, directorship, fundraising, awareness raising, training and education. In 2010 24 face to face clients were seen by volunteers. In January 2010 we established our new Fundraising Volunteer Group of 19 members for further information on this groups substantial achievements please see the fundraising section of this report.

Internship

Addressing The Needs of Young People

In 2010, SRCC published a study, entitled *Addressing the Needs of Young People: A Broader View of Sexual Health*. This research sought to develop in-depth, detailed understandings of how we can better address the sexual health needs of young people. By means of focus groups and interviews, the SRCC created a partnership with youth and community organisations, health services and young people in the Sligo and Leitrim area. Knowledge was thus shared and means of enhancing this knowledge identified. As author of the published report, Caroline Forde made a number of recommendations based on the findings of this study and these are currently being realised via this partnership. Of particular significance was the development of a module, entitled *Sex and the Law*, for inclusion in the Foróige *Teenage Health Initiative* (THI) official best practice manual for which Foróige partnered with the RCNI in order to secure funding from Cosc (The National Office for the Prevention of Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence).

This new national RCNI sexual violence prevention module, developed by Mary Roche and Caroline Forde, is part of a three week out-of-school setting Foróige training programme. Developed in compliance with the RCNI public awareness standard, the RCNI, RCC staff, including SRCC's Elaine Hanson, and Foróige participated in the consultation process. The themes running through the *Teenage Health Initiative* complement and reinforce each other. Divided over two sessions, the RCNI module begins by ascertaining participants' understanding of sexual violence and then progresses through an exploration of the meaning of consent, the responsibility to negotiate consent, the effects of sexual violence, the help available in RCCs, and the law and consent. Underpinned by an interactive framework, it allows for discussion which is intended to empower young people regarding these issues. The guidelines that participants leave with include a checklist of what to do in the event of a disclosure and a 'caring for me' list. Approximately 20 Foróige youth

trainers received specialist RCNI training in January '11, [delivered by Mary Roche, SRCC and Cliona Siadlear, RCNI]. Implementation of the first pilot of the reviewed *Teenage Health Initiative* is now underway, and will include the delivery of the elective RCNI module. Youth trainers will partner their local RCCs where resources allow and it is hoped that Sligo and Galway will be involved. Training will be provided for RCC personnel to enable this partnership. It is believed that this module contains innovative and progressive ways to support and empower young people in preventing and responding to sexual violence. We look forward to the evaluation

A full and summary copy of the report 'Addressing the needs of Young People: A Broader View of Sexual Health' is available at www.srcc.ie

Student Work Shadowing Placement with the National Counselling Institute of Ireland.

Glennis Darby fulfilled a 55 hour Shadow Work Placement with us during 2010 her duties included:

- Gain information on how community based, voluntary counselling organisation works
- Familiarise self with the policies and procedures of centre
- Enter telephone data into the Rape Crisis Network Database
- Help organise our annual Flag Day
- Compile a database of emails of Business in our region

Glennis kindly continued beyond her placement hours to help on the Flag Day itself and continued to input telephone data into the RCNI database.

Sligo Institute of Technology Student Placement

The third internship began in late 2009 and continued into 2010. It is in conjunction with Sligo Institute of Technology with 5 students undertaking to organise a fundraising/awareness raising project for early 2010. The students were Aisling Young, Edel Flanagan, Irene mc loughlin, Lisa O' Hehir and Lorraine Kelly.

The project was a day of awareness raising and fundraising involving a bucket collection, music and street entertainment and a gig at the Glass House Hotel in the evening. The day was an enormous success with €2203 being raised. The whole student team really put in a huge amount of effort and this was rewarded by the atmosphere they created on the day and the money they raised. This is hoped to be an annual event with the partnership with Sligo Institute of Technology continuing.

Training and Conferences

Extensive further training was sourced and undertaken by both staff and volunteers. During 2010 we decided to put on in house training based on identified needs of members. The training and conferences undertaken by different members is as follows:

Training

Body image and eating disorder training –Galway Training and Development Institute
Narcicissm- Sligo Psychotherapy Centre

Legal issues training- RCNI

Psychopathology –Grof Holotropic 9

RAPAR (Refugee Asylum seeker Participatory Action Research) – Sligo Leader Partnership
BodyProcess Workshop with Jim Kepner- Irish Gestalt Centre
Fear and love in Supervision- Shohet
Body Work Seminar – Sligo Psychotherapy Centre
The Hakomi Way Level 4 – Novara Centre, Dublin
Post practicum Training- Irish Gestalt Centre
Art Therapy Training- Joyn
Healing Tasks Workshop – Mayo Rape Crisis Centre
Psychometric testing
Gambling addiction training
Gestalt Psychotherapy Training – Irish Gestalt Centre
Excel Proficient Training – Pitman Institute
Personal Development Year –Irish Gestalt Centre
Excell Database Training – RCNI
Website Content Management System Training- OSD

Conferences

Group Facilitation Training
Leadership for Change Seminar Alcohol Culture –Bill W Club
Residency Rights of Migrant Women- Immigrant Council of Ireland
Stopping Domestic Violence Together Seminar – DVAS
Trafficking and Prostitution- Immigration Council of Ireland
Rape and Justice in Ireland Seminar – RCNI and An Garda Siochana

Publicity and Awareness Raising

For a detailed account of the awareness raising activities please refer to the statistical section at the end of this report.

RAC and LAN

We have begun to attend both meetings of the North West Regional Advisory Committee and the Local Area Network the purpose of these committees is to progress the national Strategy on Domestic, Sexual and Gender-based Violence 2010-2014.

Rape Crisis Network, Ireland

The Rape Crisis Network continues to act as a source of support, information, training and development to member rape crisis centres and is a medium through which we as a rape crisis centre can influence policy and lobby for change on a national level.

Diversity Sligo

We have continued to be represented on Diversity Sligo a local support group for asylum seekers and refugees. We work in close conjunction with other relevant statutory and community groups in relation to refugees and asylum seekers. We also work with the HSE re meeting the specific needs of refugees and asylum seekers locally.

Fund Raising Events

During 2010 we set up our Fundraising Volunteer Group which has 19 members this group decided to a number of events during 2010 as follows:

- Student Fundraising Day – This project was a day of awareness raising and fundraising involving a bucket collection, music and street entertainment and a gig at the Glass House Hotel in the evening. The day was an enormous success with €2203 being raised. The whole student team really put in a huge amount of effort and this was rewarded by the atmosphere they created on the day and the money they raised. This is hoped to be an annual event with the partnership with Sligo Institute of Technology continuing.
- Playback Theatre – this event was held at the Glens Centre in Manorhamilton. *Dublin Playback Theatre* is a theatre created through a unique collaboration between performers and audience where an audience member tells a story and the actors re-enact the story through various playback ‘Forms’. The actor’s response is a creative, spontaneous, physical improvisation within a framework of structured ritual. *Dublin Playback Theatre* is actively engaged in the process of enabling communities to share their stories. This was a really enjoyable evening and raised €723
- Dublin Minimarathon – we had a number of women walking and running for us this year and raised €503
- Our annual Flag Day was held on Sept 17th and this year raised the substantial amount of €2461 we had invaluable help from the transition year students in both St. Marys College, Ballisodare and Sligo Grammar School.
- We ran a bric a brac stall at the Saturday Market at Sligo Institute of Technology
- Our Pampering Evening was a really exciting evening brimming with luxury, information and health and beauty treatments in the sumptuous surroundings of the Radisson Hotel in Ballinacra, Sligo. This evening raised €1000

We would like to thank all the organisations and individuals who kindly contributed to our fundraising efforts in 2010 all their hard work made each event a great success. Finally a big thank you to all who support us through attending our fundraising events, the support of our community is invaluable.

Applications for Funding 2010

Applications for funding were made to the following organisations during the year 2010:

- ❖ The HSE North West
- ❖ Electric Aid
- ❖ Lottery Funds
- ❖ Citizen info board
- ❖ Community and voluntary grant scheme
- ❖ VEC
- ❖ Our Lady of Charity Ireland Trust Fund
- ❖ Women’s Fund Community Foundation

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

During 2010 waiting times for client appointments continue to increase to an average of 26 days. Further paid counselling hours are required to help meet the demand for our services and it also makes it difficult to advertise the services we offer when we know that people will have to go on a waiting list to access the support they deserve.

The Centre intends to engage to a greater degree with the wider community via the implementation of a comprehensive public awareness and training campaign. The main barrier to this initiative continues to be the lack of resources available to the centre.

In terms of administrative back up both the Co-ordinator and Administrator positions need to be increased to full-time in line with the demands of the workload.

We continue to encounter a number of calls from Sligo County and Leitrim. Many rurally based callers find a Centre based in Sligo town inaccessible. In response to this we have identified a need for an outreach counselling service, through our Feasibility Study, covering the counties of Sligo, Leitrim and West Cavan. By changing our name to include Leitrim and West Cavan we hope to work towards the progressive realisation of equity of access across the entire region. Again the lack of funding available to initiate an outreach-counselling programme remains the obstacle to its realisation.

In order to maintain the high standard of service provided it is essential that ongoing training continues to be provided to both paid and volunteer staff in order to develop and refresh counselling skills. It is envisaged that management, organisational training and team building will also be undertaken.

The free phone help line is still only open for 1 ½ hours in the morning Monday to Friday it is reasonable to assume that a phone line so limited in its operational time does not suit many potential clients. Consequently we require further resources to increase volunteer and paid staff cover in order to extend the phone line opening hours.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION 2010

1. FACE TO FACE COUNSELLING AND SUPPORT SERVICES

1.1 STATISTICS REFERRING TO ALL CLIENTS IE SURVIVORS AND SUPPORTERS

Table 1.1.1 No. of clients

TYPE OF CLIENT	NO. OF CLIENTS
Survivor	73
Supporter	17
Total	90

Table 1.1.2 No. of counselling sessions provided

Year	No. of counselling sessions provided	No. fulfilled	No. cancelled	No. DNA
2010	1066	911	122	33
2009	990	888	72	30
2008	802	680	95	27
2007	699	600	81	18

Table 1.1.3 Gender Profile of clients 2010

GENDER PROFILE	% OF CLIENTS 2010	% OF CLIENTS 2009
Female	90	84
Male	10	16

Table 1.1.4 No. of Clients using our Advocacy Services

YEAR	NO. OF CLIENTS	% OF TOTAL CLIENTS
2010	43	47
2009	40	43
2008	23	28

1.2 STATISTICS REFERRING TO SUPPORTER ONLY**Table 1.2.1 Relationship of Supporter to Survivor**

RELATIONSHIP OF SUPPORTER TO SURVIVOR	% of supporters 2010	% of supporters 2009
PARENT	53	56
SIBLING	6	6
NON CO-HABITING PARTNER		6
CO-HABITING PARTNER		
UNCLE /AUNT	6	13
AQUAINTANCE		6
FOSTER PARENT		6
DOCTOR/CARING/MEDICAL	12	6
OTHER		
CHILD	18	
FRIEND	6	

1.3 STATISTICS REFERRING TO SURVIVORS ONLY**Table 1.3.1 Referral Profile of clients 2010**

CLIENT REFERRED BY	% OF CLIENTS 2010	% OF CLIENTS 2009	% OF CLIENTS 2008
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DOCTOR	6	3	2
FRIENDS/RELATIVES	21	21	20
GARDAI	1	2	4
HOSPITAL			1
SELF	41	37	40
OTHER VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION	11	11	10
COUNSELLOR/THERAPIST	11	9	7
SOCIAL WORKER	6	10	8
PSYCHIATRIST	2	3	1
HOSTEL	4	2	4
REFUGE		1	
REFUGEE LEGAL SERVICE	1	1	
OTHER	1	2	
TEACHER	1		
UNKNOWN	1		

Table 1.3.2 Legal Status of clients

LEGAL STATUS	% OF CLIENTS 2010	% OF CLIENTS 2009
Irish citizen	74	68
EU citizen	9	12
Asylum seeker	14	15
Refugee- a person who has been granted legal refugee status		1
Permanent leave to remain	1	1
other		3
unknown	1	1

1.3.3 Country of Origin profile of clients

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	% OF CLIENTS 2010	% OF CLIENTS 2009
Irish/settled	73	67
Nigeria	5	3
Democratic Republic of Congo	3	1
France	1	1
Uganda	1	
Kosovo	1	1
Angola		1
Somalia		1
United states of America		2
Cameroon	1	1
Mauritius		1
The Netherlands	1	3
Great Britain	4	5
Northern Ireland	4	1
Albania		1
Sudan		1
Ghana	1	1
Germany		1
New Zealand		1
Poland		1
Unknown	3	4
Panama	1	
South Africa	1	

Table 1.3.4 Age Profile of Survivors

AGE PROFILE	% OF SURVIVORS 2010	%OF SURVIVORS 2009
5-11		
12-14		1
15-16		1
17-23	20	21
24-29	14	18
30-39	28	37
40-49	18	17
50-59	16	15
60-69	3	5
70+	1	

Table 1.3.5 Sexual Orientation

SEXUAL ORIENTATION	% OF CLIENTS 2010	%OF CLIENTS 2009
Straight	77	72
Lesbian/Gay	3	3
Bisexual		
Unknown orientation	22	25

Table 1.3.6 Disability Profile

	% OF CLIENTS 2010	%OF CLIENTS 2009
Deaf		
Learning disability	4	5
Mobility impaired	1	1
None	94	92
Visually impaired		
Wheelchair user		1
unknown	1	1

Table 1.3.7 Residence area of survivors

RESIDENCE AREA	% OF SURVIVORS 2010	%OF SURVIVORS 2009
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cavan	1	1
donegal	4	1
leitrim	9	8
mayo	1	1
roscommon	5	5
sligo	72	78
dublin	3	4
fermanagh	3	
Galway	3	1
unknown		

1.4 SEXUAL VIOLENCE DETAILS OF SURVIVORS

Table 1.4.1 Type of Sexual Violence Experienced by Survivors

TYPE OF ABUSE EXPERIENCED	NO. OF CLIENTS 2010*	NO. OF CLIENTS 2009*
CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE	49	46
RAPE	35	34
SEXUAL ASSAULT	4	6
SEXUAL HARRASSMENT	1	1
RITUAL ABUSE		1
TRAFFICKING	1	
PROSTITUTION	2	
UNKOWN	6	21

Table 1.4.2 Survivors Who Experienced More Than One Form of Violence

YEAR	% OF CLIENTS WHO EXPERIENCED MORE THAN ONE FORM OF VIOLENCE
2010	59%
2009	51%
2008	49%

Table 1.4.3 Age at time of sexual violence

AGE AT TIME OF ABUSE	No. OF CLIENTS 2010*	No. OF CLIENTS 2009*
0-11	31	35
12-16 years	18	20
17-23 years	17	24
24-29 years	8	9
30-39 years	8	6
40-49 years	2	2
50-59 years		2
60-69years		
70 and over		
unknown	7	18

Table 1.4.4 Duration of abuse

DURATION OF ABUSE	NO. OF CLIENTS 2010*	NO. OF CLIENTS 2009*
<1 hours	20	30
1-3hours	8	12
4-6 hours	1	
6+ hours	3	5
< 1 day	5	2
1-3 days	2	3
6+ days	2	2
< 1 week	1	1
1-3 weeks	1	3
4-6 weeks	1	1
6+weeks	1	1
1-3 months	1	1
6+months		1
0-1 year	7	3
1-3 years	12	8
4-6 years	7	9
6+ years	13	15
Unknown	10	15

* Included in these figures are some clients who may have experienced more than one form of sexual violence, for instance child sexual abuse and rape as an adult

Table 1.4.5 Gender profile of perpetrators

GENDER OF PERPETRATOR	% OF PERPETRATORS 2010	% OF PERPETRATORS 2009
Male	96	93
Female	2	4
Unknown	2	3

Table 1.4.6 Relationship of Abuser to Survivor

RELATIONSHIP OF ABUSER TO SURVIVOR	NO. OF ABUSERS 2010	NO. OF ABUSERS 2009
AQUAINTANCE	13	14
NON COHABITING PARTNER	2	4
BROTHER	13	10
CLERGY	3	1
FAMILY FRIEND	7	15
FATHER	11	10
CO HABITING PARTNER	7	6
EX PARTNER NON COHABITING	1	1
NEIGHBOUR	7	12

OTHER	1	1
STEPFATHER		1
TEACHER (LAY)	2	1
TEACHER (CLERGY)	2	1
GARDAI		3
UNCLE	9	10
UNKNOWN	7	14
SPORTSCOACH/YOUTHWORKER	1	1
BROTHER-IN-LAW	2	2
MOTHER	2	2
CHILDMINDER	1	1
COUSIN	1	2
STRANGER	26	16
SECURITY FORCES	11	12
DOCTOR/MEDICAL/CARING PROFESSIONAL	1	4
CO-WORKER	1	1
GRAND FATHER	2	1
FRIEND	1	
EMPLOYER	5	

Table 1.4.7 Reported to the Gardai/PSNI

ORGANISATION	% CLIENTS REPORTED 2010	% CLIENTS REPORTED 2009
GARDAI	33	22
HSE	1	6
GARDAI AND HSE	3	4
OTHER NATIONAL POLICE	3	3
NOT REPORTED	55	53
UNKNOWN	7	11

2. TELEPHONE STATISTICS 2010

2.1 Telephone Statistics for 2010

TYPE OF TELEPHONE CALL	2010	2009	2008
No. Telephone Counselling/Support Sessions	404	468	355
No. Advocacy calls	223	263	163
No. Appointment calls	667	718	604
No. business calls	1280	1260	1198
Hang Ups	57	71	67

3. TRAINING, EDUCATION AND AWARENESS RAISING STATISTICS 2010

3.1. MEDIA INPUTS

Throughout 2010 the following media inputs occurred;

- Newspaper adverts : Sligo Champion, Sligo Weekender, Sligo Post, Leitrim Observer, North West Extra
- Radio adverts on Ocean FM
- Community Diary on Ocean FM
- Mail shot to all agencies in the Sligo, Leitrim and West Cavan Area
- Website: up and running
- Newspaper articles submitted:

Flag day

Pampering Evening

White Ribbon Campaign

Playback Theatre Event

Student Awareness Raising/Fundraising Day

- Radio interviews -2 interviews given re the Pampering Evening

3.2 AWARENESS RAISING /EDUCATION

During 2010 we provided education/awareness raising to the following groups:

Attended the Student Health Fair at the IT

ICA presentation on our centre's role - 80 participants

Sexualities Seminar at Sligo Institute of Technology – 75 participants

Sexualities Workshop at Sligo Institute of Technology - 12 participants

Connecting Communities Information Roadshow – Globe House

Electric Aid Showcase – 80 participants

VEC Listening Skills Training – 10 participants

16 Days of Action Against Violence Against Women:

During the 16 Days Campaign the Centre undertook a number of awareness raising initiatives:

- ❖ Produced '16 Rights for 16 Days,' a series of statements designed to raise awareness in relation to women's rights within our society, for example, 'You have the right to say no to any sexual advances and to have that decision respected' and 'You have the right to live free from criticism and judgement.' Each day throughout the campaign a different statement was displayed outside the Rape Crisis Centre.

- ❖ Exhibitions of the statements and local services available to women were also held throughout the 16 Days in Sligo City Hall and Sligo City, Carrick-on-Shannon, Manorhamilton and Tubbercurry Libraries. The statements were also exhibited by the Institute of Technology.
- ❖ We participated in the Women’s Aid awareness raising email campaign

3.2 No. of awareness raising/training input and participants 2008/2009/2010

Year	No. of inputs	No. of participants
2008	30	309
2009	18	248
2010	7 including one ongoing training course	257 plus general public at some events

Rape Crisis and Sexual Abuse Counselling Centre Sligo, Leitrim and West Cavan

Annual Report 2010

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