



WISCONSIN COALITION AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT

Talking Points:
Please Increase Funding for Sexual Assault Prevention & Services
March 2017

- **My name is _____ and I live in _____.**
- *(Insert your story, that of someone close to you, other real-life examples, and/or why you care, etc.)*
- The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that in Wisconsin:
 - 390,000 women have experienced rape
 - 912,000 women have experienced sexual violence other than rape
 - and 507,000 men have experienced sexual violence other than rape
- In 2015, Wisconsin's sexual assault service providers had only enough funds to serve 12,223 survivors.
- **Sexual assault prevention and victim services in Wisconsin are vital, but woefully underfunded.**
- The governor's budget proposal does not increase funding for the Sexual Assault Victim Services grant program, called SAVS.
- SAVS is currently funded at ONLY \$2.138 million annually via General Purpose Revenue (GPR).
- **SAVS is the only state funding for sexual violence prevention and is tiny compared to the need.**
- The Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault's **Population-based Staffing Model finds that we need to increase SAVS funding to at least \$5.88 million annually**
 - **just to be able to provide standardized, core sexual assault prevention and victim services in every county.**
 - This would enable providers to address survivors' needs and reduce the long-term costs of rape.
- The state also should appropriate an additional 5% of SAVS funding annually to support the Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault in meeting the need for increased training and technical assistance to grantees.
 - That means an additional \$0.294 million annually, GPR, based on the \$5.88 million.
- **Will you help make Wisconsin safe from sexual violence by supporting a funding increase for SAVS to \$6.174 million annually GPR?**
- **The economic cost** of each sexual assault ranges between \$87,000 and \$240,776, including medical and victim services, loss of productivity, decreased quality of life, and law enforcement resources.
- **The human cost** of sexual assault is also staggering. As a result of sexual assault, survivors are:
 - 3 times more likely to suffer from depression
 - 6 times more likely to suffer from posttraumatic stress disorder
 - 4 times more likely to contemplate suicide
 - and 26 times more likely to abuse drugs
- Thank you.