

MA SANE PROGRAM

LINE ITEM 4510-0810

These funds support the MA Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Program's direct services, the Rape Crisis Centers' Medical Advocacy, and the Children's Advocacy Centers.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Massachusetts Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Program is nationally and internationally recognized as a model of quality, compassionate, forensic nursing care which provides services for sexually assaulted/abused patients of all ages.

SERVICES

DURING FY 2015, THE SANE PROGRAM PROVIDED DIRECT SERVICES TO **1,651 patients of all ages, including 751 children and 900 adults and adolescents.**

PROSECUTION

Prosecutors across the Commonwealth report that SANE participation through expert evidence collection, trial preparation, and court testimony has significantly increased the rate of guilty pleas and guilty verdicts. In FY'15, SANEs received 100 subpoenas for testimony.



THE ADULT/ADOLESCENT SANE PROGRAM cares for patients 12 years and older presenting to 29 designated emergency departments on a 24/7, 365 day basis. SANE nurses use state of the art forensic procedures to collect valuable evidence which assists with the identification and subsequent prosecution of offenders.

THE PEDIATRIC SANE PROGRAM provides comprehensive services to children who experience both acute and chronic sexual abuse.

Pediatric SANEs currently provide care in 7 of the state's 11 Children's Advocacy Centers, and provide an emergency Pediatric response at Lawrence General Hospital. The Program utilizes, the first of its kind, Massachusetts Pediatric Evidence Collection Kit (MA PEDI Kit) developed on the principles of "Do No Harm". This kit is currently being replicated by other states and countries including Alaska.

EVIDENCE COLLECTION

The SANE Program collects approximately **70 percent of evidence kits** transported by police to the Boston and State Police crime laboratories. SANEs ensure that chain of custody procedures are followed to preserve evidence integrity and to help hold perpetrators accountable.

TRAINING

During FY'15 the MA SANE Program provided trainings to over 130 hospitals and community partners including: Police Departments, Municipal and State Police Training Academies, DCF, Disabled Person's Protection Commission, Rape Crisis Centers, the Military, Schools, Colleges and Universities.

The MA SANE Program continues to provide consultation and assistance to other states, territories and countries looking to start or improve their SANE/Pedi SANE programs or evidence collection tools.



TELENURSING GRANT

In October 2012, the MA SANE Program/MDPH was awarded a 3 year, \$3.3 M grant to pilot an innovative project to implement and evaluate the use of telemedicine to improve access to SANE expertise for patients with little or no current access to such services. To date, telenursing services are being provided to 2 Naval hospitals and a rural critical access hospital in CA. In Spring 2016, TeleNursing services will be provided to 2 MA hospitals and a Hopi healthcare facility in AZ.

