

Boston Area Rape Crisis Center

The Boston Area Rape Crisis Center (BARCC), established in 1973, was one of the first rape crisis centers in the United States to advocate for and support survivors of sexual assault. First initiated as a grassroots, activist endeavor, the organization continues to be supported by over 140 BARCC volunteers annually. Volunteers provide hotline crisis counseling, adolescent and family services, support groups, medical support, legal advocacy and education to businesses, community groups, teen centers and schools.

As the second oldest rape crisis center in the United States, BARCC has been highly visible nationally in the fight against violence against women. BARCC staff and volunteers have been invited to consult both in the US and abroad and educate the police, court personnel, medical providers, the judiciary, human service providers and the general public. BARCC continues to fight for and win legislative reforms that improve the court process.

Last year, BARCC served over 8,500 women, men and adolescents and reached out to individuals who are least able to otherwise access our services. These include adolescent boys and girls, financially disadvantaged women, linguistic minorities, women of color, the elderly, the homeless, and disabled women. BARCC provides these services to individuals in Cambridge as well as throughout the greater Boston area (within the Rte 128 belt).