

# Sexual Assault Awareness Months (SAAM)

April 2024

## Campus Events and Programs

### Introduction

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM). Join us in recognizing this month and what it means for our students and communities. It is a time to recognize the prevalence of sexual assault, educate our communities, and support our students. Many of our institutions, as well as local and national advocacy groups, have some incredible events and programs taking place this month, as well as informative content on their SAAM websites.

Please find a snapshot of the local and national resources below, as well as campus activities taking place this month.

*Local and National SAAM Resources and Events:*

- **Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC)** | NSVRC's 2024 SAAM Campaign is Building Connected Communities. This focuses on: Our Voices Have Power. Together, We Can Build Safe and Respectful Communities. To learn more, please visit: <https://www.nsvrc.org/saam>.
- **Jane Doe, Inc. (JDI)** | April 2024 Activities:
  - **Tuesday April 2 ~ VOCA Bridge Advocacy Day.** JDI is joining partners at the Massachusetts Office of Victim Assistance (MOVA) for the Victim Rights Month Kickoff with VOCA Bridge Advocacy Day. The event will be held from 1:30 – 2:30 pm at the MA State House Room 222
  - **Wednesday, April 3 ~ Beyond Violence: Survivor Healing and Reclaiming Our Stories,** poetry readings and conversations on survivorship by m/ mick powell and Olivia Gatwood. Register [Here](#)
- Boston Area Rape Crisis Center (BARCC) [Walk for Change](#), April 21, 2024
- [Governor's Council to Address Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, and Human Trafficking](#) ~ The mission of the Governor's Council to Address Sexual Assault, Domestic Violence, and Human Trafficking is to advise the Governor on how to help individuals, children, and families of the Commonwealth live a life free of sexual assault, domestic violence, and human trafficking.
- Additional [Statewide Resources for sexual assault survivors](#)

### Campus Events and Programs:

- Salem State University
  - **March 27, 2024 ~ Sexual Violence Prevention and Survivor Advocacy Civic Dinner:** To start off SAAM, join Civic Engagement and other agencies for an evening of food, networking, and learning from local advocates invested in ensuring access to protections and resources for all students and people in the North Shore community impacted by sexual violence.  
  
Link: <https://www.salemstate.edu/calendar/sexual-violence-prevention-and-survivor-advocacy-civic-dinner-mar-27-2024>.
  - **April 16, 2024 ~ SAAM Day of Action:** Wear teal to Alumni Plaza for information about preventing sexual violence and supporting survivors. This year's campaign is "Building Connected Communities, Our Voices Have Power. Together WE Can Build Safe & Respectful Communities." Meet Advocates from SSU Prevention Education Advocacy and Response (PEAR), YWCA North Shore Rape Crisis Center (NSRCC), and Healing Abuse Working for Change (HAWC) for resources, education, and information about how to support survivors.  
  
Link: <https://www.salemstate.edu/calendar/sexual-assault-awareness-month-saam-day-action-apr-16-2024>
  - **April 23, 2024 ~ Denim Day at SSU:** Join us for the 25th year of celebrating Denim Day! Millions of people across the world will wear jeans with a purpose, support survivors, and educate themselves and others about all forms of sexual violence. Wearing jeans on Denim Day has become a symbol of protest against erroneous and destructive attitudes about sexual assault. Stop by our tables in Alumni Plaza to receive your Denim Day stickers & pins and to meet advocates from PEAR, HAWC, and YWCA NSRCC for education and support.  
  
Link: <https://www.salemstate.edu/calendar/ssu-denim-day-apr-23-2024>
- Worcester State University: all events will be posted on the WSU Instagram account @wsusave
  - Wednesday, April 3 ~ Community Resource Fair & Panel
  - Wednesday, April 10 ~ Women's LAX, Yards for Yearley: One Love game
  - April 16<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> ~ Clothesline Project
- Roxbury Community College: In honor of Sexual Assault Awareness Month in April, The Wellness Center at RCC is sponsoring a campus-wide awareness campaign including dissemination of educational information, workshops/ trainings in prevention and bystander intervention, and giveaways! This includes:
  - **April 24th, 2024:** In collaboration with the Boston Area Rape Crisis Center (BARCC), BARCC is coming to campus to provide training specifically for RCC students in Preventing Sexual Violence by Being an Active Bystander.

- **April 26th, 2024:** In collaboration with BARCC, BARCC will join RCC’s Professional Staff meeting to provide training in “Sexual Violence: Key Strategies for Staff in Creating a Safer Campus Community.” The goal of this training is to provide student-facing staff with the skills to appropriately respond to disclosures of sexual violence.
  - **Email and Flyer Campaign:** At the beginning of the month, students, faculty, and staff will receive an email regarding Sexual Assault Awareness Month, including educational information and lists of on campus, local, and national resources. Custom flyers will also be posted around campus.
  - **Merch, Giveaways, and Educational Materials:** Throughout the month, the Wellness Center will be handing out teal ribbons, brochures, pamphlets, and other information around sexual violence and consent.
  - **Sexual Misconduct Climate Survey:** The Title IX office will be distributing a campus-wide climate survey to collect feedback about campus culture around sexual harassment, relationship violence, and sexual misconduct for the purpose of improving campus safety and increasing prevention efforts. The survey will be distributed in April and be promoted as a component to RCC’s Sexual Assault Awareness month campaign. Participants will be entered into a drawing to receive a gift card for their participation.
- MassBay Community College
- **Monday, April 22 ~ How to be a better partner: Healthy Communication and Consent in Relationships.** Join us over lunch for an informal, but important discussion on how to create and maintain healthy communication in intimate and romantic relationships. We will also discuss how individuals can talk about consent with their partner as well as how to recognize some of the signs of an unhealthy relationship.
  - **Wednesday, April 24 ~ Denim Day (ALL DAY) and Resource fair** with local on and off campus partners. April 26 is International Denim Day, an annual event since 1999 where individuals choose to wear jeans (or any denim one might have) to show support for survivors of sexual assault. If you are able and willing, please “Show Us Your Denim” on this day. To learn more about Denim Day and its history, please visit <https://nationaltoday.com/denim-day/>
- In addition, the Title IX Coordinator Office and student volunteers will be in the Wellesley Cafeteria from 11:30am-1:30pm with free coffee, hot cocoa, snacks, and materials on resources both on and off campus. Please stop by!
- **Thursday, April 25 ~ Bringing in the Bystander.** Bringing in the Bystander, a nationally recognized and evidence-based program, focusing on educating individuals on how to be a pro-social bystander and how to effectively intervene in a situation if a potential risk of sexual violence is present. This program runs for about one hour and offers a variety of real-life situations and opportunities to obtain life skills pertaining to harm

reduction when difficult situations arise. Free coffee, hot cocoa and snacks will be available too!

- **Friday, April 26: Updates and Refresher on “How to refer information to Title IX Coordinator.”** Do you ever wonder if the information you just received from a student needs to be shared with the Title IX Coordinator at the College? What if the person who told you asked you not to say anything? What actually happens when a student submits a complaint involving sexual harassment or sexual violence? Join us for a conversation where we will discuss the answers to all of these questions, plus many more and share best practices on how to refer information in a way that keeps the matter private and focused on what’s best for the students involved. In addition, updates on the pending Title IX regulations will be provided.
  
- Northshore Community College
  - Tuesday, April 2 ~ Affirmative Action and Title IX Training for Students, Staff, and Faculty
  - Monday, April 8 ~ Sexual Misconduct Campus Climate Survey is sent to NSCC Community
  - Thursday, April 18 ~ Safe-Tea: Safer Online Dating - Student Audience
  - Tuesday, April 23 ~ SAAM virtual speaker - Pending confirmation - Student Audience
  - Wednesday, April 24 ~ SAAM in-person speaker - Pending confirmation - Student Audience
  - Friday, April 26 ~ How to Respond to Student Disclosures of Sexual Misconduct - Faculty and Staff audience
  
- Massasoit Community College
  - **Wednesday, April 24 ~ Sexual Assault Awareness Day at MCC.** Sponsored by: The Women's Resource Center and The Health & Wellness Office. It will include many local resource providers as well.
  - Past presentation sponsored by our Women’s Resource Center on the topic of human trafficking.
  
- Mount Wachusett Community College
  - **April 22 – April 26** ~ MWCC is partnering with the YWCA for their “Empty Place at the Table” and the Clothesline Project
  
- Northern Essex Community College
  - **Tuesday, April 2 ~ Workshop presented by the YWCA Northeastern on Sexual Assault Awareness.** This is a time for all to come together to talk openly about sexual violence to increase knowledge and awareness, and identify strategies and resources to prevent sexual violence.
  
- UMASS Lowell
  - **Tuesday, April 2 | Tuesday, April 9 | Wednesday, April 16 | Tuesday, April 23 | Tuesday, April 30 ~ Sexual Assault Awareness:** The Center for Hope and Healing and

UML's CAPE peer prevention educators will be hosting information tables on North and South Campus with the goal to share information about unwanted sexual attention and resources and support available.

- **Thursday, April 11 ~ The Clothesline Project:** A visual display of violence statistics that often go ignored. Each shirt is made by a survivor of violence, by someone who has lost a loved one to violence, or who is a supporter standing against violence. The color of each shirt represents a different type of violence. The purpose of the project is to increase awareness of the impact of violence and abuse, to honor a survivor's strength to continue, and to provide another avenue for them to courageously break the silence that often surrounds their experience.
  - **Thursday, April 18 ~ Take Back the Night:** Rally to end sexual violence in all its forms.
- Brandeis University: [Prevention, Advocacy, and Resource Center SAAM Events](#)