



barcc

Boston Area Rape Crisis Center

Dedicated to Healing.

Advocating for Change.

Medical Advocacy



Get support at the hospital: BARCC’s highly trained and supervised volunteer and staff advocates meet survivors—as well as their friends, families, loved ones, and any professionals who accompany them—at the emergency room and intensive care unit of hospitals in Greater Boston 24-7. The advocate’s purpose is to provide comfort to the survivor by sharing knowledge, offering empowering support, helping survivors talk with medical staff, and ensuring the survivor has next steps and referrals.

BARCC services are free and confidential to people ages 12 and older. BARCC’s Medical Advocacy program works with hospitals to arrange language interpretation when needed and ensure that reasonable accommodations will be provided.

“I had never felt so alone in my life, but there you were with me every step of the way.” –Survivor

What a medical advocate can do for you

- ★ Meet you at the hospital emergency room and stay with you during your visit
- ★ Offer compassionate, knowledgeable support
- ★ Advocate for your needs with the hospital staff
- ★ Explain sexual assault exams and evidence collection kits
- ★ Provide information to help you make the best possible decisions for your situation
- ★ Talk with your family or friends about how to best support you
- ★ Help you connect with a variety of resources for safety and support

Who are BARCC medical advocates?

BARCC’s medical advocates are trained rape crisis counselors who understand the hospital emergency room experience. They go to the hospital over 500 times a year. BARCC works in cooperation with hospitals and the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) Program to ensure that survivors get the best possible care.

Requesting Medical Advocacy services

If you have not yet gone to the hospital, you can call our hotline at **800-841-8371** for info about hospitals, evidence collection, and medical advocacy. If you go to a hospital that is part of the SANE program, they will call BARCC. If you go to an emergency room that is not part of the SANE program, you can ask the hospital to call BARCC's hotline for a medical advocate.

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barcc.org | office: 617-492-8306 | hotline: 800-841-8371 (24-7), barcc.org/chat

