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Georgia College grant aims to tackle sexual assault nurse examiner shortage
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Nursing, School of : Wednesday October 30, 2019

On any given day, an estimated 20,000 phone calls come into domestic violence hotlines across the country, according to the National Network to End Domestic Violence. On top of that, 45 percent of female rape victims and 29 percent of male victims were raped by an intimate partner.

Resources to serve domestic or sexual abuse victims can sometimes be scarce, especially in rural areas. Of the more than 80,000 registered nurses in the state, few are trained in the specialized care of the victim of domestic violence and sexual assault. The Georgia College School of Nursing is helping to bridge that gap.

The Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE) campus-based training program, funded by an $803,000 grant from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), began in fall of 2018. It covers the cost of classroom and
Dr. Josie Doss (right) wrote the grant.

临床培训，专业组织会员资格，认证和继续教育对护士来说至关重要。

只有20个这些奖学金在全国范围内颁发，乔治亚大学是该州唯一获得这些联邦资金的组织。

“妇女健康是我的临床专业领域，我一向对司法护理有浓厚的兴趣。这个培训奖学金是一个完美的机会，可以将这些角色与我在乔治亚大学作为护理教育者这一角色融合在一起，”Dr. Josie Doss，护理副教授兼撰写奖学金的作者说。

培训计划遵循国际司法护理协会（IAFN）的教育指导方针。护士参与在线和临床技能训练，与医疗-司法历史、医疗-司法检查、证据收集、记录和专业法庭作证有关。

基金合作伙伴包括Navicent Baldwin和公共卫生活动部门。他们都在临床实践场所及招聘合格护士的池子中作为临床实践场所。

“我们特别与Navicent Baldwin合作，因为其偏远的设置和长期的实践伙伴关系。临床培训的大部分都发生在乔治亚大学模拟和转化研究中心内。”

“公共卫生部门的另一个明智选择是因为其长期的实践伙伴关系和提供的临床实践机会。作为报答，我们能够为公共卫生护士提供优先入学资格，并将培训专业人士安置在一个环境中，他们可以接触到那些寻求治疗的受害者。”

自项目实施以来，又建立了或正在寻求与当地的、独立的性侵犯中心的合作，包括在米尔得维尔和危机线平安屋在马康/沃纳罗宾斯。

性暴力的影响远远超出了任何身体伤害的影响。
emotional and psychological effects lasting a lifetime.

“The long-term impacts of domestic violence and sexual assault can be severe,” said Doss. “Research indicates having well-trained medical professionals with an understanding of the neurobiology of trauma can reduce the long and short-term consequences.”

In most cases, the sexual assault nurses are victim’s very first contact with health care after this incident has happened.

“The way they are treated is really important as far as their long-term recovery and their long-term mental health,” said Doss.

Twenty-year nursing veteran Kimberly Griffin sees herself as a helper. The nurse practitioner with the Department of Public Health’s North Central Health District was one of the first students to enroll in the SANE program. She said becoming SANE certified gives her another opportunity to help the community she’s a part of.

“...The big thing for me is that I want to do more as a nurse practitioner. There are shortcomings in care for patients. I want to identify these problems, and to do that, I know I need additional training to be able to step back, identify it as an

Nurse takes a swab
Being a public health nurse allows her to understand and see her community better.

“Working in public health, you see things in a broader sense. It’s a community, and you start to see trends.”

Georgia College has worked with multiple organizations across the nation and the state to identify trainees. Currently, 16 nurses have completed didactic and clinical skills SANE training with another 21 currently enrolled. After the completion of clinical practice hours, students have the option to become certified by taking an exam demonstrating advanced competency in the field.

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