Right now you may feel scared, angry, confused or possibly, in the safety of the hospital, even relieved. We believe you have been sexually assaulted—raped—and we are here to help.

A specially trained female nurse is caring for you. She is trained as a sexual assault forensic examiner (SAFE), and all SAFE nurses are female. While you are in the Emergency Department, she will answer any questions you may have and will also offer emotional support and guidance to help you understand the crime you have suffered. We will also provide you with resources for counseling and follow up care.

Our mission
The SAFE program provides care to victims of sexual assault 24-hours-a-day, 7-days-a-week, 365-days-a-year. This is an on-call service for all males and females over age 12 who have been victims of sexual assault. For children under age 12, contact Midwest Children’s Resource Center at, 651-220-6750.

SAFE Office Address
Fairview Ridges Hospital
201 E. Nicollet Blvd.
Burnsville, MN 55337
Voicemail: 982-892-2714
Email: kmoore1@fairview.org

EMERGENCY ROOM PHONE NUMBERS
Fairview Ridges Hospital
952-892-2021
Regina Medical Center
651-480-4280
St. John’s Hospital
651-232-7348
St. Joseph’s Hospital
651-232-3348
Woodwinds Health Campus
651-232-0348
Let healing begin
You can begin to heal by understanding that rape can happen to anyone, anytime and anywhere. This is not your fault; no one deserves to be raped. We understand that you cannot control what happened to you. Excuses may be offered, however:

• Being intoxicated is not a legal defense for rape.

• Having sex with someone who is high, drunk or underage is rape.

• Using sex to hurt someone (physically or emotionally) or to feel strong and powerful is rape.

Rape statistics

• One out of every six women has been the victim of rape or attempted rape (14.8 percent rape; 2.8 percent attempted rape).

• About 3 percent of men—a total of 2.78 million men—have experienced rape, or an attempted rape, in their lifetime.

• About 44 percent of rape victims are under age 18. Three out of every 20 victims are under age 12.

• Approximately 70 percent of female rape victims and 74 percent of male rape victims know their assailants.

• The average age of a rapist is 31, 52 percent are white and 22 percent of imprisoned rapists report that they are married.

• One of the most startling statistics is the number of rapes that go unreported. In 2003, only 39 percent of sexual assaults were reported to law enforcement—about one in every three.

These statistics were taken from the 2003 National Crimes Victims Survey.

Protect your rights
As a sexual assault survivor, you have a right to report this as a crime. While not every victim may choose to report to law enforcement, you have a right to know what your options are and to be supported without bias.

Your SAFE nurse understands the needs of victims of sexual violence and will explain what will happen during your exam to collect physical evidence. Your nurse will perform a special exam to:

• Collect and save evidence that will be needed if your assailant goes to trial.

• Evaluate your risk of pregnancy.

• Evaluate the need for medication to reduce the risk of contracting a sexually transmitted disease (STDs).

• Evaluate and document any further injuries. If you have injuries that require medical treatment, the nurse will ask the emergency department staff to also evaluate your needs. This examination is separate from those performed to collect evidence.

Crime does not pay
You will not pay for this special SAFE exam. The cost of the forensic evidence collection portion is paid for by the County Attorney's office.

The medical treatment for physical injury, to prevent STDs and to prevent pregnancy may be billed to your insurance. If, however, you do not have insurance, it will not affect the quality of your care.

We are here for you
Follow-up emotional support and counseling for victims and families is available through the following resources:

Womankind at Fairview Ridges Hospital, Burnsville
952-892-2505

Community Action Council of Dakota County Sexual Assault Services
651-452-7466

Sexual Offense Services of Ramsey County
651-643-3006

Human Services, Inc. of Washington County
651-777-1117