



Survivors of sexual violence deserve experienced and appropriate care !

**Dear Representative:
We know you care about public health and safety ...**

Everywoman's Center



...so are writing on behalf of Rape Crisis Programs and survivors of sexual violence, to express our deep dismay about the cuts to the states' Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program, Line Item 4510-0810 of the Department of Public Health (DPH) budget for FY2010. During this year, the SANE budget has been cut by 40% , while other programs have been completely spared.



Ask a DA you know if the SANE program has helped them prosecute rapists– **the answer will be yes!**



Ask a physician you know from a SANE designated hospital if the SANE program helps the emergency department run more efficiently AND care for this patient population– **the answer will be yes!**



Ask a physician or nurse you know from a NON-SANE hospital if they would want the SANE program at their hospital– **the answer will be yes!**

**North Shore Rape
Rape Crisis Center**



Ask the police or crime labs if the evidence collected by a SANE nurse is superior– **the answer will be yes!**



A Safe Place, Inc.

Finally, ask a survivor or the parent of a survivor if the care they got as a result of the multidisciplinary SANE program helped them heal. **The answer will be yes!**

Voices Against Violence
Womansplace Crisis Center

The SANE cuts are disproportionate and unjust. The 40% reduction will have a devastating impact on survivors of sexual violence, who are among the most vulnerable residents of the commonwealth. It has taken over 10 years of investment to develop this gold standard of coordinated expert care. **Please help us influence the Governor to say YES to restoring this funding.**



Sincerely,
Directors of Massachusetts Rape Crisis Centers