



Summary of Sexual Assault Counselor/Victim Advocate Training SAC Training Course Description

All volunteers who have direct contact with the clients of Victim Services Center of Montgomery County, including staffing the agency's two 24-hour crisis hotlines, must complete a 65-hour state mandated Sexual Assault Counselor/Victim Advocate training, or just SAC Training for short. The training comprises of 40 hours of Sexual Assault Counselor Training, and 25 hours of Victim Advocacy Training. Certification is granted after successful completion of the training requirements including a final exam at the completion of the course. The in-depth training is designed to prepare volunteers to provide crisis intervention, support and information to individuals affected by serious crimes.

The training involves instruction and experiential activities that explore the dynamics of sexual assault and other criminal victimization. Topics covered include the social and cultural factors which support and sustain victimization and oppression of adults and children, emotional responses to victimization and a review of the systems which victims and their significant others may interact with including hospitals, law enforcement and the criminal justice system. Special emphasis is placed on developing and enhancing listening and problem-solving skills.

Since many of the concepts stressed during the training build upon one another, it is imperative that all of the sessions be attended. Assessment of participants is measured in a variety of ways. Trainees will be asked to take a quiz at the beginning of each session to test their comprehension of the material presented. Trainees will also be asked to take a final exam and participate in role plays throughout the course of the training. Each individual must demonstrate competence in role plays and maintain an average of 80% on the written assessments to gain certification.

There is a training fee of \$30 for each participant.

For more information about the Sexual Assault Counselor training, contact:
Lauren Uhl, Volunteer Coordinator, (610) 277-0932 X-228 or
via email at lauren-uhl@vscmontcopa.org

NEXT SAC TRAINING OPORTUNITY: SUMMER 2021

July 2021

Monday-Friday, 10 am-5 pm, daily, for approx. 2 weeks