

Key services provided

- Crisis intervention, advocacy and support at the time of the trauma
- Medical attention for general physical and sexual health care needs
- Investigative expertise to report the crime
- Forensic medical examinations for the purposes of reporting
- Follow up support and appropriate referrals
- Ongoing longer term counselling
- Support through court and the criminal justice process

SART is free, confidential and available 24 hours 7 days

Contact SART

During business hours via:

**The Sexual Assault Support Service
4775 7555
The Townsville Hospital
4433 1111
Child Abuse & Sexual Crimes Unit
4759 9743**

After-hours via:

Child Abuse & Sexual Crimes Unit
4759 9743 or
your local police station or hospital

If you have concerns for your immediate safety, or that of another individual, please call 000

We acknowledge the sovereignty of the First Nations/Peoples on whose land and sea we live and work; and honour their Elders, past, present and emerging. We particularly recognise the unique journey of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women and the contribution their voices make within our organisation and the wider community.




The Women's Centre
safe space for women



References

Queensland Government (2014). *Response to sexual assault*. Queensland Government Interagency Guidelines for Responding to People who have Experienced Sexual Assault. Queensland Government, Brisbane.
Queensland Sexual Assault Services (2010). *The Right to Choose: Enhancing Best Practice in responding to Sexual Assault in Queensland*. QSAS, Brisbane



SART
**SEXUAL ASSAULT
RESPONSE TEAM**
TOWNSVILLE REGION

“The earlier an appropriate, specialist intervention occurs following sexual assault, the lower the risk of negative long term consequences – for the victim, their family, their community and society more widely”

(QSAS, 2010, p. 22).

4759 9743

SART is a free, confidential service available 24 hours 7 days

Who we are

The Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) is a multidisciplinary, interagency group of professionals, established to work alongside victims of sexual violence to provide a response that is sensitive, holistic and timely.

The specialist team comprises Social Workers from the Sexual Assault Support Service, Detectives from the Child Abuse & Sexual Crimes Unit, Nurse Examiners from the Clinical Forensic Medicine Unit, and Medical and Allied Health staff from the Townsville Hospital and Health Service.

What we do

The SART model uses a team approach to provide a coordinated, wrap-a-round, 24-hour support service for victims of sexual assault that reflect Queensland Government Interagency Guidelines.

The services provided by SART are free and confidential to all victims, and span psychological, general and forensic medical, and criminal reporting and court support needs, as requested.

Our key commitments

The *Queensland Government Interagency Guidelines (2014)* clearly articulate the urgent need for both greater service coordination, and specialist sexual assault support at the time of crisis. These identified needs provide the focus and commitment of SART to our community.

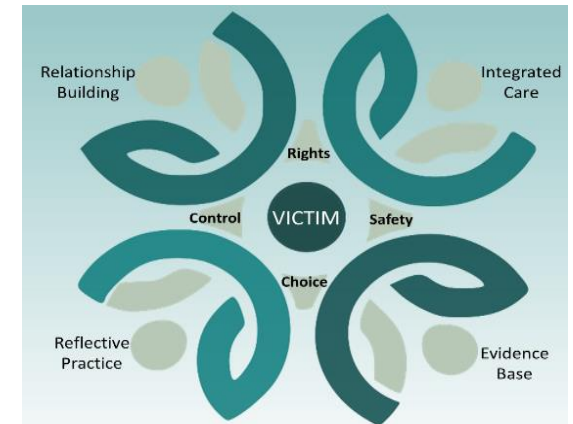
Interagency collaboration in service delivery

As a direct consequence of the complex nature of sexual assault, victims commonly interact with a number of different organisations. In this context, the SART team is committed to collaborative work, holistic approaches, and ultimately to ensuring all victims are afforded coordinated service provision.

Access to specialised crisis support

The trauma associated with sexual violence, and the possible longer term impacts for survivors, necessitate specialist and timely support. The SART team is committed to ensuring all victims of sexual violence are afforded support at the time of crisis, and consequently provides a 24 hour service to the community.

Trauma and violence informed care



A trauma and violence informed framework provides the foundations for the SART team, ensuring victims of sexual assault, remain at the very centre of the work that we do.

SART recognises the rights of individuals, and the importance of ensuring their safety, prioritising their choices, and empowering them to regain control over their bodies and their lives.

More broadly, SART aims to represent a model of best practice through cooperative working relationships, integrated care, reflective practice, and the ongoing development of a strong evidence base.