

PRESS RELEASE

Salem County Women's Services has announced its annual training for volunteers to aid sexual assault and rape victims with supportive accompaniment at hospitals and police stations.

The 40-hour training is offered free of charge to anyone working or living in Salem County. It will be held on Saturdays in October (2, 9, 16, 23, and 30). The training will be held at a location within Salem County. This information will be shared once the prospective volunteer has completed the application process.

Volunteers will receive the 40 hours of state mandated training in order to enable them to qualify under the victims' privilege statute. Under this statute, volunteers can speak with sexual assault victims without the worry of being subpoenaed, which is a typical proceeding without the 40 hours of training. The training will also provide the volunteers with the skills to support victims of sexual assault, plus a basic understanding of the law and what qualifies someone as a sexual assault victim.

For more information or to register, please call 935-8012 and ask for Deborah, Monday through Thursday between the hours of 9:00am and 4:00 pm. The deadline for registration is September 16, 2010.