



zacharias

sexual abuse center

from here to healing

Potential Volunteer Packet



About Us

Our Mission

To provide a place where survivors of sexual assault and abuse can heal and mobilize the community toward action to end sexual violence.

Our Vision

To create a community free from sexual violence.

Our Values

Community-Conscious | Relationship-Centered | Results-Oriented

Our Philosophy

To provide quality, comprehensive, client-centered services to survivors of sexual assault and abuse. These services are provided in partnership with the survivor in the spirit of equality, free from judgment or oppression.

We believe that the women, men, and children we serve are entitled to respect, accessible services, privacy, empowerment, and advocacy.

Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center (ZCenter) services are free and available to all survivors regardless of race, gender, language, ability, sexual orientation, or religion.

ZCenter seeks to be an active presence in the community to speak up in support of and in partnership with all survivors of sexual violence. ZCenter provides services to the community at large and to other professionals and service providers to enhance the understanding of the impact of sexual violence on everyone.

Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center

4275 Old Grand Avenue, Gurnee, IL 60031

4232 Dempster Street, Skokie, IL 60076

24- Hour Support Line **847-872-7799** | (P) **847-244-1187** | (F) **847-244-6380** | www.ZCenter.org



Services

Counseling

ZCenter supports clients in healing from trauma and works to lessen their risk from future victimization.

Individual, family, and group counseling provides survivors of sexual violence of all ages and their loved ones with supportive listening, advocacy, information, and referral services. Individual, family, and group support sessions are available in English and Spanish.

Our counselors use a client-centered approach to help create an empathetic relationship. Our goal is to create a safe space for survivors to connect with and explore their feelings.

Advocacy

ZCenter provides support, information, intervention, and referral services to survivors, significant others, and community professionals. Services can be provided in Spanish.

Medical Advocacy

ZCenter provides support to the survivor and his or her family throughout the medical process. Our medical advocates can be present at the hospital during a survivor's medical examination any time of day. Our medical advocates provide information and assist survivors in understanding their options. Medical advocates also provide follow-up services such as follow-up phone calls and crisis counseling.

Support Line Advocacy

ZCenter provides emotional support, information, and community resources to survivors, significant others, and community professionals (e.g.: police, medical, schools, etc) through a 24-hour Support Line: 847-872-7799

Legal Advocacy

ZCenter provides support to the survivor throughout the criminal justice process. Legal advocates explain the legal system and accompany and assist the survivor in reporting to law enforcement, attending court proceedings, and filing for crime victim's compensation. We are available to follow the legal proceedings of clients and assist them in receiving fair and respectful treatment. Our legal advocates also assist the Assistant State's Attorneys in supporting the survivor.

Male Advocacy

Assist male survivors and male loved ones of survivors in the Medical/Police, Legal, and Support Line Advocacy Programs.

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Prevention Education & Community Outreach

ZCenter strives to effect change through educating children and the community with age-appropriate sexual abuse and sexual assault information.

Child Assault Prevention Program (CAPP)-CAPP is a highly acclaimed national model of prevention education developed by Women Against Rape in Columbus, Ohio in 1978. CAPP is designed to teach skills that children can use to reduce their vulnerability to assault and abduction.

Teen Assault Prevention Program (TAPP)-TAPP provides age-appropriate curricula for middle and high school students that teach skills to identify and prevent bullying behavior and sexual violence. TAPP expands students' understanding of violence and objectification through interactive discussions

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Volunteer Opportunities

Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center offers volunteer opportunities for individuals wishing to support sexual assault survivors and their loved ones through advocacy, community education, administrative support, and/or fundraising.

Participation in direct-service volunteer programs (Advocacy & Community Education) requires completion of application materials, including references and background check, completion of the 40-hour training course, along with a pre-training interview.

Medical & Police Advocacy

Respond to Lake County hospitals and police departments when a sexual assault survivor is present. Provide crucial support, crisis intervention, and information on-site to the survivor and his/her loved ones.

Support Line Advocacy

Provide emotional support, information, and community resources to survivors, significant others, and other community professionals (e.g.: police, medical, schools, etc.) over the telephone from your own home.

Legal Advocacy

Attend legal proceedings of sexual assault cases at the Lake County Court House.

Community & Prevention Education

Assist with sexual assault prevention education in Lake County Schools. Conduct classroom presentation to children pre-school through high school. Convey personal safety information.

Administrative Support

Assist staff with mailings, data entry, filing, copying, newsletter development, etc. The 40-hour is recommended, but not necessary.

Event Committee

Participate with a team of volunteers to conduct fundraising events each year to benefit ZCenter's programs. Offer your talents to committees for food, decorations, music, raffle tickets, silent auction set up/tear down of events, etc.

Internships

Internships are available for undergraduate and graduate level academic programs in human services (e.g.: social work, education, criminal justice, counseling, etc.).

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Volunteer Expectations

Thank you for your interest in becoming a volunteer or intern with Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center (ZCenter). We are excited that you are considering volunteering with us and dedicating your time to serve survivors!

Volunteers are essential to the free services we are able to provide to survivors of sexual violence and their loved ones. Because of the passion and dedication of our volunteers, we are able to fulfill our mission to "provide a place where survivors of sexual assault and abuse can heal and mobilize the community toward action to end sexual violence".

ZCenter Expectations of Volunteers & Interns

- Respect Client Confidentiality
- Open Communication
- Positive Attitude & Willingness to Help
- Dedication to Ending Sexual Violence
- Desire to continue learning about the dynamics of sexual violence and the impact on survivors
- Show compassion, empathy, and support for all people—regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, ability, age, sexual orientation, or any other personal characteristic
- Commitment of **1 Year or More** of Service
- Attend **4 or More Monthly Volunteer Meetings** Each Year
- Be professional and respectful when interacting with staff, volunteers, and members of the community

What Volunteers & Interns Can Expect from ZCenter

- To Be Treated as a Colleague & Fellow Professional
- 40-hour Sexual Assault Crisis Intervention Training*
- “40-hour Focus” Monthly Volunteer Newsletter
- Continued Training and Education
- Meaningful Opportunities to Serve Your Community
- Opportunities to Engage with Other ZCenter Volunteers
- Membership in the ZCenter Volunteer Facebook Group
- Emotional Support
- Mentoring by Staff & Experienced Volunteers
- Professional References Upon Request

*There is a fee of \$100 for training. Fee includes training course, training materials, and certificate of completion. The training fee will be waived for individuals completing a school-sponsored internship.

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COMING SOON-4232 Dempster Street, Skokie, IL 60076

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