

Forensic Nursing

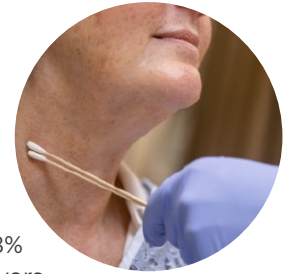
2020 IMPACT REPORT



FORENSIC NURSING MISSION

For nearly 200 years, the mission of Bon Secours has been to bring compassion to health care and to be Good Help to Those in Need®. The Bon Secours Richmond Forensic Nursing Program is an important part of this mission to serve our community, and has been a critical resource for victims of abuse for 28 years. Forensic nurses provide community outreach through a variety of ways, including participation in multiple sexual assault and child abuse response teams, as well as community lectures and presentations on sexual assault, human trafficking, strangulation, child abuse, elder abuse and interpersonal violence. This Bon Secours program is one of only a few across Virginia to be staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week, serving patients of all ages. These 24 forensic staff members are leaders in their field, serving 37 jurisdictions, partnering with law enforcement, attorneys, child advocacy centers, shelters, social services, victim witness and many others with the goal of identifying and assisting victims of violence. Their patients receive compassionate medical-forensic care and are provided with resources to obtain justice and see hope for the future.

Strangulation Training



One in four women will experience intimate partner violence in her lifetime. Of women who encounter intimate partner violence, between 68% to 80% of high-risk survivors will experience non-fatal strangulation by their partner — often multiple times and to the point of loss of consciousness. Strangulation is an ultimate form of power and control which can have a devastating psychological effect on victims who survive the attack. Strangulation is one of the most lethal forms of violence a forensic nurse may see.

The Bon Secours Forensic Nursing Program in partnership with the Training Institute on Strangulation Prevention hosted an advanced strangulation training in March 2021. Funds obtained through community donors were utilized to help provide scholarships to 61% of the 129 participants. Participants included community members from across the state of Virginia as well as from Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, New York, and Ohio. The training provided education to attorneys, healthcare providers, law enforcement, and victim services from 56 different agencies.

BY THE NUMBERS 2020

2445
TOTAL PATIENTS

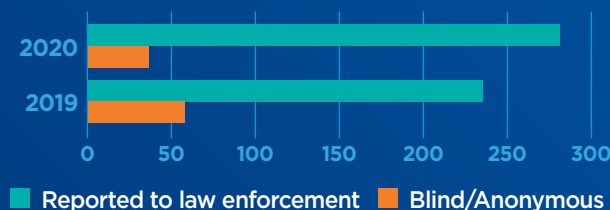
1413
CASES (459 PEDIATRIC)

1032
CONSULTS

4%
DECREASE FROM 2019

Decrease in numbers for March and April 2020, increase every month from July to Dec. with a **30%** increase in Oct. 2020

PERKS (Physical Evidence Recovery Kits)



Strangulation

- 2020: 218** initial exams
 - 117** without evidence
 - 101** with evidence collection
 - 94** returned for follow-up
- 2019: 169** initial exams
 - 63** with evidence collected
 - 74** follow-up exams

Human Trafficking

- 2016-2020: 164** human trafficking patients
 - Provided services for **64** patients in the shelter (some of these included in the 164 total)
- 2020: 25** human trafficking patients
- 2019: 26** human trafficking patients





Make a gift

To make a gift to support the Forensic Nursing program, visit bsvaf.org/forensicnursing or mail gifts to: 5008 Monument Avenue, 2nd Floor, Richmond, VA 23230

or contact **Angie Dempsey** at angie_dempsey@bshsi.org or 804-514-5440



BON SECOURS FORENSIC NURSING SERVICES

5801 Bremono Road, Richmond, VA 23226

NON-EMERGENCY NUMBER: 804-281-8574

St. Mary's Hospital (*forensic office location*)
Memorial Regional Medical Center
Rappahannock General Hospital
Richmond Community Hospital
Short Pump Emergency Center
St. Francis Medical Center
Southside Emergency Care Center
Southside Medical Center
Southern Virginia Medical Center
Westchester Emergency Center

EMERGENCY NUMBER: 804-281-8184

Ask for the forensic nurse

Wine Women & Shoes

OUR ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

Due to COVID-19, the 2020 Wine Women & Shoes was our first virtual event. Anthony Antoine from NBC12 was the emcee. Gina bravely shared her story of being strangled as she was severely beaten by her husband. Fortunately, she made her way to Bon Secours St. Mary's Hospital where a forensic nurse collected evidence, including over 200 photographs of her injuries. They then worked with the prosecuting attorney and testified to their findings in court. To see the video shown during the 2020 event, visit our website listed below. The 2020 event offered lots of fun, too, with both a silent and premiere auction, the Key to the Closet raffle for a Closet Factory closet filled with goodies totaling over \$10,000, as well as the Wall of Wine and Fun Wagon raffles and the Best Dressed and Best In Shoe contests. We were sad not to be together in-person, but through watch parties and social media, we felt the strength of working together to raise funds for such an important cause.

Wine Women & Shoes 2020 raised funds to support the forensic nursing team, including the Hospital-Based Violence Intervention Program team (HVIP) and the patients and families they serve. The money contributed to the funding of a renovation project, which will relocate and expand the forensic nursing office suite. The new space will more than triple the square footage to better serve their patients and to allow better collaboration with their partners, such as law enforcement. In the renovated space, the suite will house two exam rooms and two waiting rooms, allowing the team to see two patients at the same time and provide privacy for both patients and members of their support systems. One of the exam rooms will be pediatric-friendly, as almost 50% of our patients are children. A conference/training room will provide adequate space for meetings and trainings. Additionally, a wonderful resiliency room will provide a space where the staff can take a break, eat a meal, or relax in a massage chair. The renovation began early in 2021 and the suite is scheduled to open mid-summer 2021 - in large part due to donations made and funds raised at Wine Women & Shoes 2019 and 2020!

IN 2020
WE RAISED:
\$68,000!

SAVE
THE DATE:
10/24/21

For more information, visit
winewomenandshoes.com/richmond