Reform Efforts  
Making a Difference Project  
COLUMBIA

FUTURE PLANS:

1. Prosecution DFSA
2. Suspect exams
3. Evaluation of kits
4. SART surveys
5. Bystander training (predatory behavior and how to intervene)

PROGRESS:

1. Created a database for client tracking and statistics
2. Developed more groups with collaboration and agencies to serve more survivors in the community.
3. Provided training to SCDOC and other local agencies and community groups (in more schools)
4. Increased number of collaborative agencies participating
5. Training for judges
6. Improved relationship with CPD and increased engagement with SVU investigators. Improved attendance of SART meeting. Also attended SANE class.
7. Have worked hard to establish anonymous reporting with troubleshooting along the way by working with community agencies
8. SANE database
9. Research with sexual assault survivor at the initial exam and follow-up at 1 week, 6 week, 12 weeks and 6 months looking at the recovery process.
10. Applied for VAWA grant to increase coverage for 6 counties by 6 full time Forensic Nurse Examiners to perform examinations for sexual assault and intimate partner violence.
11. VOCA grant was funded for a 5th year for the SANE Coordinator position
12. Created a protocol and procedure guidelines for working with sexual assault survivors.
13. Developing a fact sheet
14. SLED reform kits – hairs removed, buccal swabs added and documentation improved
15. Next county SART: assisting Lexington county getting a SART team together
16. Video – SART and first responders
17. SANE case review with appropriate SART members
18. SANE training (RN, LE, criminal justice agency):
19. Advocates: develop database, more groups collaborating, training in more schools
20. Richland County Sheriff’s dept created a web-based database - case management system that allows the solicitors office to access all reports including forensic exam reports which facilitates exchange of information
21. Sheriff’s dept has designated a % of their drug seizure dollars to apply to victims’ counseling services where the victim does not qualify for reimbursement under the State Office of Victim Assistance guidelines.

22. Ordered sexual assault brochures in Spanish due to community’s recent increase in Hispanic population and increase in victimization.

23. Entered into contractual agreement with “Definitely Speaking,” a sign language interpreting company -- to translate for deaf sexual assault victims.

24. Added Spanish speaking victim advocates in RCSD and Solicitor’s office. They are also qualified as child forensic interviewers.