

Community Partners, Stakeholders, and Survivors:

I wanted to reach out and let you know the services that Polk County Crisis and Advocacy is currently providing. Keep in mind, we will change according to the needs of the community and other direction that we are provided. As of March 17, the following briefly describes the level of service we are providing in Polk and Warren County.

- Polk County Crisis and Advocacy Services will provide direct services to survivors based on their needs and safety but will limit in-person meetings. Advocates will meet with survivors via phone and video conferencing as much as possible. Please call 515-286-3600 to speak with an advocate.
- Crisis and Advocacy will continue to provide medical advocacy and acute sexual assault responses in partnership with Mid-Iowa SART and the local hospitals. When required to meet in person with victims, advocates will ensure all parties follow the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention safety guidelines of washing hands and maintaining a “safe” distance from one another.
- Crisis and Advocacy will continue to work with local law enforcement agencies while responding to homicides and suicides.
- The majority of criminal and civil jury trials have been postponed in Iowa, as a result, advocates will work with survivors on addressing legal appointments in an efficient and effective manner.
- Advocates will remain available to help survivors connect with community resources pertaining to employment issues, housing needs, including shelters, and access to government benefits.
- If survivors need crisis counseling or health guidance, advocates are prepared to serve them and provide referrals and resources that can be accessed easily.
- Crisis and Advocacy is not accepting walk-ins at the current time, however we will continue to provide advocacy. Call 515-286-3600 to speak with an advocate.
- All Crisis and Advocacy events have been suspended until further notice.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions. Thank you and be well.