

## **DEPARTURE OF SARC'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

BEAVERTON, Ore. – Dec. 22, 2017 – Oregon's Sexual Assault Resource Center ("SARC"), a leading provider of first responder care and services to survivors of sexual assault, has accepted the resignation, effective immediately, of its executive director, Erin Ellis. The agency, which provides hospital response and court accompaniment, mental health counseling and a 24-hour hotline to survivors, is committed to avoiding interruption of its schedule and quality of services during this change in leadership. SARC will fulfill its mission at every turn with passionate and well-experienced service providers and program managers.

Consistent with its goal of ensuring a smooth transition and minimally impacting SARC's clients or community partners, the SARC Board of Directors is working closely with SARC staff to identify a permanent replacement for Ms. Ellis. During the transition, Deanna Seibold, SARC board chair, will act as executive director.

As we move forward under new leadership, SARC seeks to continue and strengthen its relationships with our community partners.

Ms. Ellis was SARC's executive director for 16 years, and grew the organization to where it is today, serving our youth and survivors in both Washington and Multnomah Counties, and consulting surrounding counties. Her dedication grew the number of staff, programs, and budgets for SARC over her tenure. Ms. Ellis' hard work has created a support system for survivors throughout our community, and the board, the community and the thousands of survivors SARC has served over the years are thankful for this.

### **About SARC:**

The Sexual Assault Resource Center was founded in 1977 and since then has operated 365 days a year, 24 hours a day. SARC is a non-profit organization funded by government grants, foundations, and private donations. Our mission is to promote social justice by eliminating sexual violence in our community through education, support, and advocacy. The agency is headquartered in Beaverton, Oregon. For more information 503-626-9100 // [sarcoregon.org](http://sarcoregon.org). Media inquiries: please contact Kelly Lusk, [sisterkk\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:sisterkk[at]gmail.com) // 503-334-5816.