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NFL Announces Funding for Sexual Assault Services

Today, the National Football League (NFL) announced a multi-year commitment to support services for survivors of sexual assault and pledged funding to advocacy organizations across the country. The National Alliance to End Sexual Violence worked with the NFL to determine an approach that ensures funds will support the increased need for direct services for sexual assault survivors.

Recent media coverage regarding sexual violence and domestic violence among NFL players has contributed to an increased volume of calls to local and national hotlines regarding sexual assault and domestic violence. The NFL recognizes the importance of supporting the organizations and coalitions that provide services to survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence; the NFL is committed to linking all executives, coaches, players and staff from the 32 teams with local advocacy organizations in their communities.

“As it stands, rape crisis centers are woefully underfunded to meet the needs of sexual assault survivors. Whenever high profile cases are in the media, the demand for services increases. We appreciate that the NFL is beginning a process of responding to the very real needs of survivors in every community,” said Monika Johnson Hostler, NAESV President.

In the first year, funds will be directed to the National Domestic Violence Hotline (The Hotline) and the National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC). Specifically, the funding allocated to NSVRC will support the state coalitions and local advocates that work directly with survivors of sexual assault.

Today’s funding announcement from the NFL comes with a commitment to provide educational trainings, resources and information to help the NFL community of teams and players better understand the issues of sexual assault and domestic violence.

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[The National Alliance to End Sexual Violence](http://www.naesev.org) (NAESV) is the voice in Washington for the 56 state and territorial sexual assault coalitions and 1300 rape crisis centers working to end sexual violence and support survivors.