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# Montana SAKI Outreach Webinar

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# Montana SAKI Outreach Overview

This webinar will cover:

- Stakeholder outreach methods used to inventory kits and compile statewide victim advocate resources;
- Statewide SAKI Task Force discussions of protocol and legislation;
- Collaboration with law enforcement, county attorneys, the Attorney General's Law Enforcement Council, SANE Nurses and advocates;
- Outreach and delivery of Sexual Assault Response Team training;
- Montana's initial creation and implementation of outreach tools (website, phone hotline and contact email for survivors);
- Future statewide stakeholder collaborations to develop sustainable protocols in sexual assault response.



# Outreach is Important

Building awareness, strengthening working relationships, increasing stakeholder buy-in, providing opportunities for input, and sharing knowledge with and for the well being of survivors.



# When Do You Begin OUTREACH with SAKI??



.....NOW

# Montana

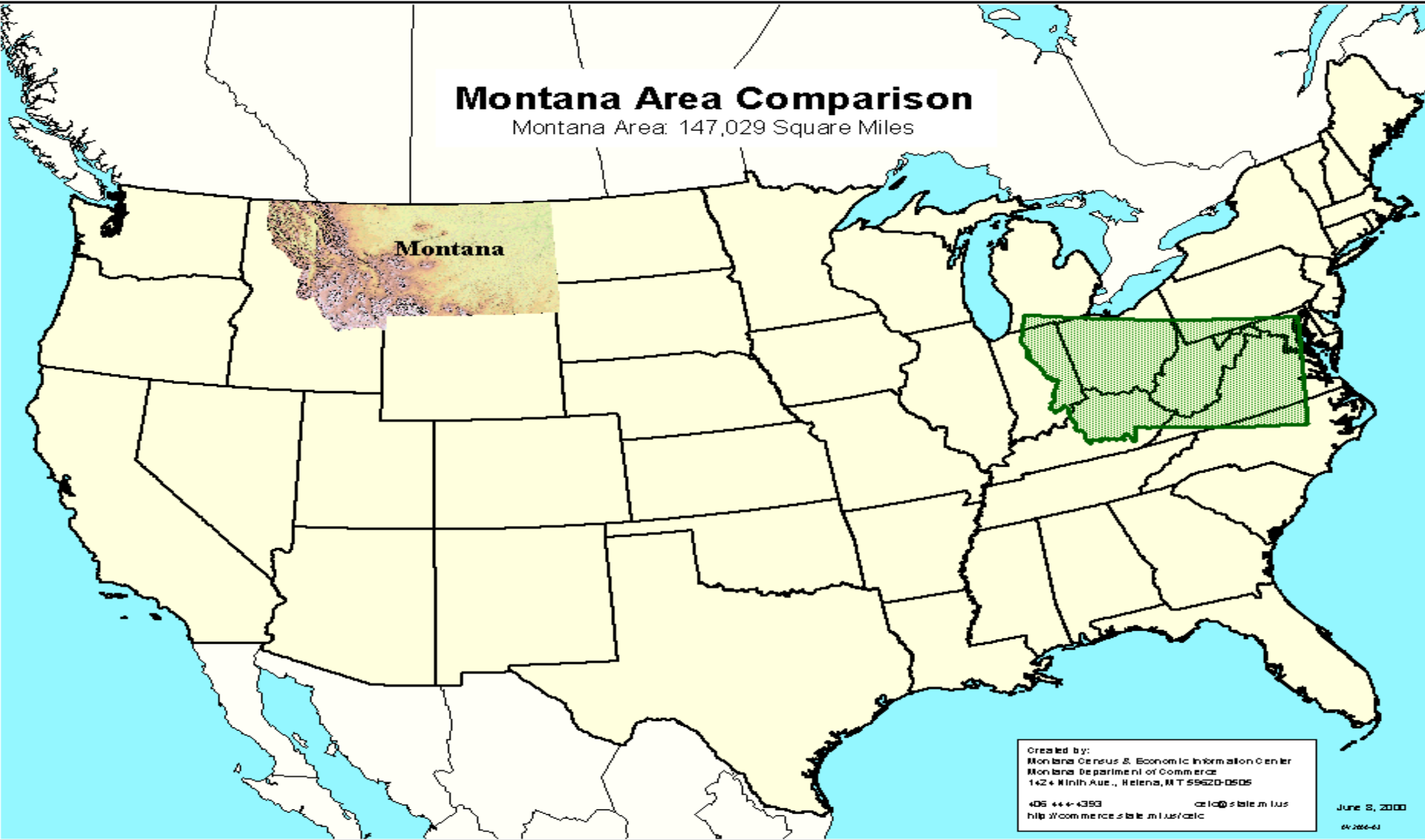
## Demographics

**MONTANA Population:** 1.03 million (2015) = 6 people per sq. mile  
**Area:** 147,164 sq miles (381,154 km<sup>2</sup>)



# Montana Area Comparison

Montana Area: 147,029 Square Miles



Montana

Created by:  
Montana Census & Economic Information Center  
Montana Department of Commerce  
1424 Ninth Ave., Helena, MT 59620-0505

406 444-4353      celc@state.mt.us  
<http://commerce.state.mt.us/celc>

June 8, 2000

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# Reaching Out to Stakeholders



# Inventory of Kits

Working with Jurisdictions State Wide

# Inventory of Kits Statewide

- Find your Champion
- Start at the Top
- Make it personal
- Connect with the “Can Do” Person
- Set Deadlines
- Follow Through

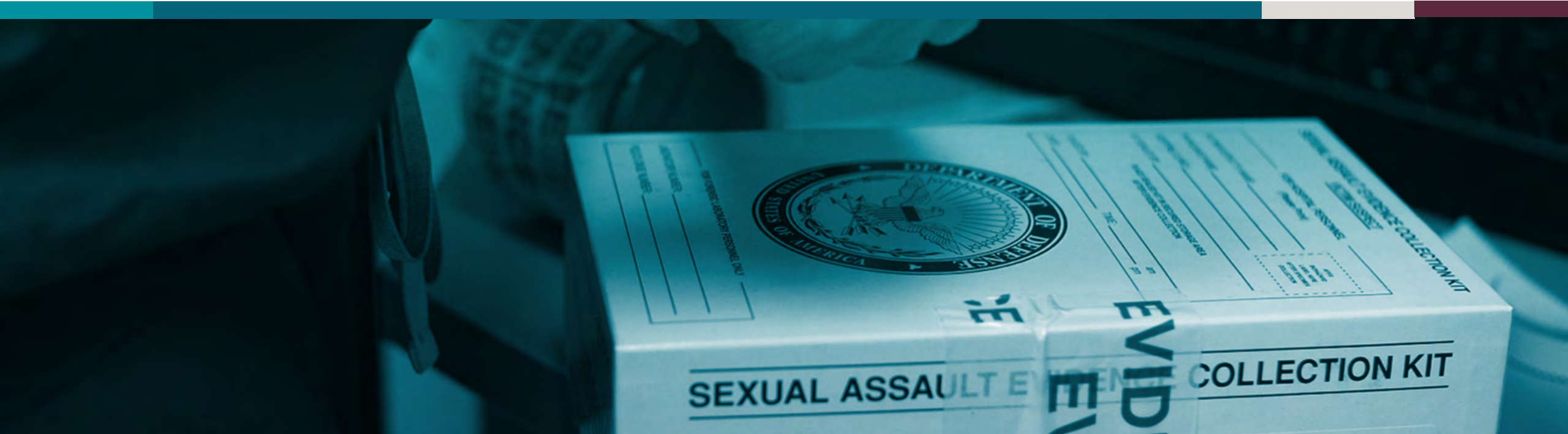


# Statewide SAKI Task Force

Policy and Procedures



# Collaboration – State and Local



##

**Law  
Enforcement**

##

**Prosecutors**

##

**SANE Nurses**

##

**Advocates**

##

**Media**

##

**Crime Lab**

# Training

Training is the passport to the future, for tomorrow belongs to those who prepare for it today.



# TRAINING

## Train and Be Trained

- ❖ MLEA – Montana Law Enforcement Academy
- ❖ MVAA – Montana Victim Advocate Academy
- ❖ SANE NURSE Convention
- ❖ County Attorney Association
- ❖ MSPOA/MACOP (MT Sheriff and Peace Officer Association/MT Association of Chief of Police)
- ❖ AG's Law Enforcement Advisory Counsel
- ❖ .....Don't forget RTI and Fellow SAKI sites

# Resources for Survivors

Providing alternate means for survivors to learn about SAKI or their untested sexual assault kits is extremely important in empowering survivors in their choices and allowing them to access our team and information. Outreach and publicizing these resources can reach people statewide.







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*“The goal is to provide information to sexual assault survivors in ways that minimize revictimization trauma, address the issue of untested sexual assault kits, and connect survivors with resources and professionals who can assist them with healing and potentially moving forward with their cases”*

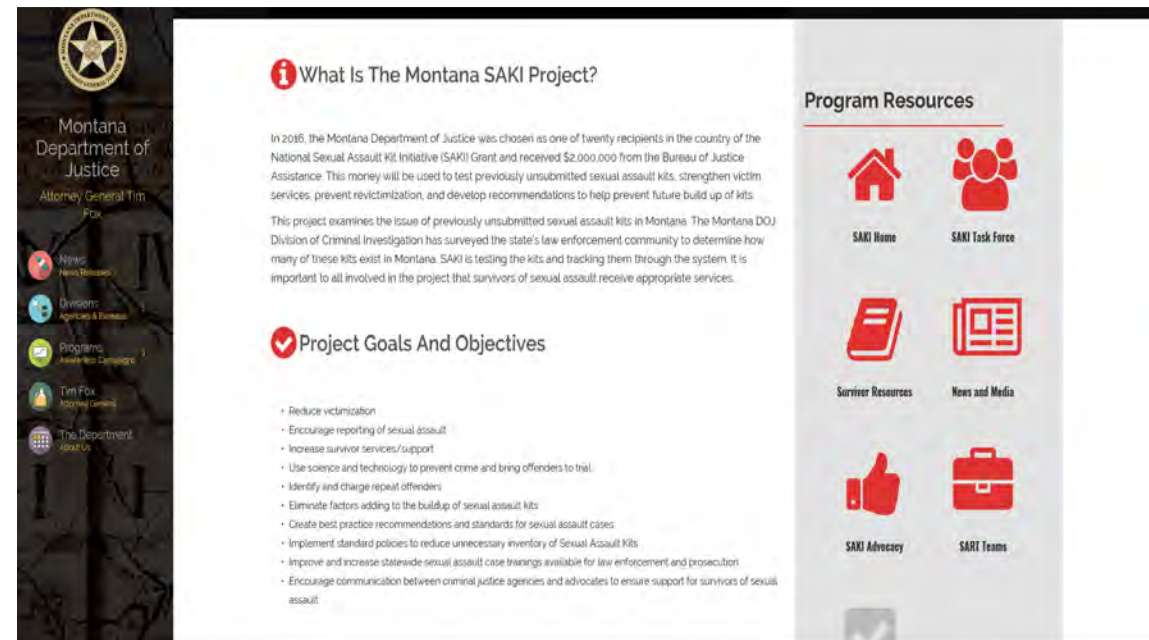
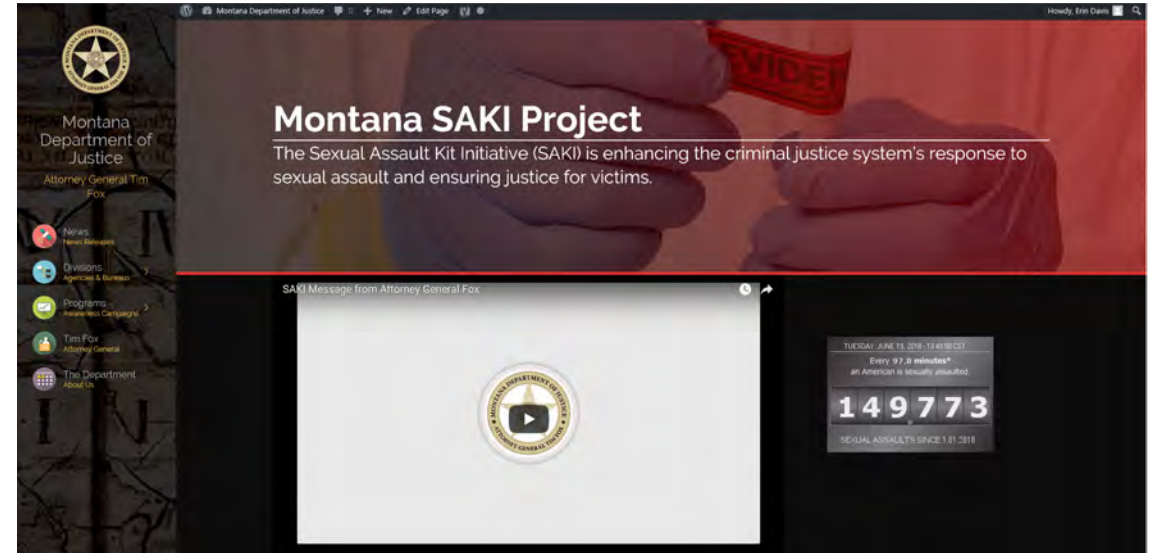
*- Montana Attorney General Tim Fox*

# Website

*<https://dojmt.gov/SAKI>*

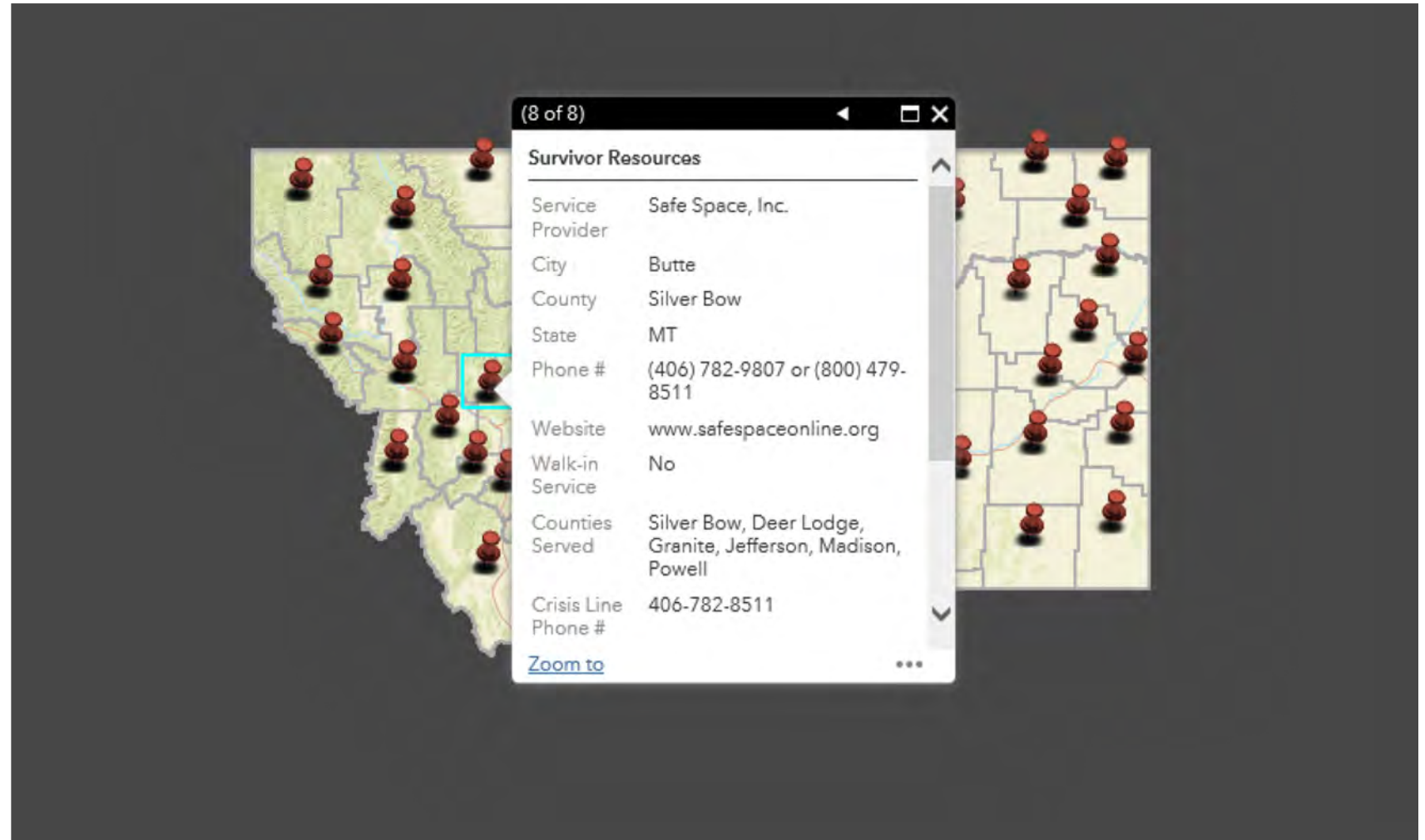
# Webpage Features

- Video to survivors from Montana Attorney General Tim Fox
- Explanations of SAKI project goals and objectives
- Sexual assault active counter (nationwide)
- Frequently asked questions and answers about sexual assault kit testing and backlog
- Information about the AG appointed SAKI Task Force and their activities
- Survivor resource map for advocacy
- News and media about the Montana SAKI project
- Explanation of advocacy types
- Location of existing and forming SART Teams
- Contact form for survivors to reach MT SAKI team
- Coming soon- check your kit status!



# Survivor Resource Map

- Advocates in each jurisdiction were personally contacted to verify and compile information.
- This map allows survivors to click on their area of residence and locate advocacy resources in their area.
- Interactive map allows you to toggle through all available resources in your area.
- On the back end, advocates names and direct contact information is saved so that SAKI staff may reach out or make a direct referral.
- In the future, it is planned to add layers of services to the map, such as food stamps, legal assistance, housing, etc.





# Contact Form

- This contact form is nested on the Montana SAKI Website (DOJ).
- Survivors can reach out to us first, allowing them a choice and a voice.
- The initial message sent from the contact form to the SAKI Advocate is not encrypted, but all return communication is encrypted thereafter.
- The survivor may choose to opt-out of case notification through this form, or other forms of contact.

## Contact Us

SAKI Hotline: 888-548-5463

Please use the form below to contact an advocate with SAKI Montana, and we will contact you as soon as possible. Please let us know the best way to reach you, and if it is okay to send an email or leave a voice message with the provided contact information. If you would like to opt-in or opt-out of case information, use the contact information provided to let the SAKI Advocate know.

Name \*

First

Last

Email \*

Phone \*

Your Message \*

*Although your information is kept confidential within the criminal justice system, please do not submit sensitive information that should be legally protected through this contact form. This information is sent directly to the SAKI Advocate, who works as a part of a team who will work to keep you safe. Please provide contact information, and the advocate will send you separate, encrypted communication through the SAKI Email.*

Submit

# Survivor Hotline and Email

Giving Survivors Choice in Contacting Us

# Hotline and Email



- Hotline number allows survivors to leave a confidential message so that the Montana SAKI Team may review their case before the Montana SAKI Advocate reaches out to them with information.
- A designated email address is publicized for survivors to reach out to us.
- The Montana SAKI Team has access to respond to hotline and email requests.
- Return emails are encrypted and this ensures the continuing email thread is secure and confidential.
- Communication from the website Contact Form is also sent directly to the designated email address.
- The hotline and email are *not* a crisis hotline.

# Media Announcements

Press Release Language

# Press Release

## Montana Department of Justice Announces New Webpage and Hotline for Sexual Assault Survivors

HELENA – As part of its Sex Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI), the Montana Department of Justice has developed a new webpage and hotline for survivors of sexual assault. Both the webpage and the hotline were designed to make it easier for sexual assault survivors to connect with the resources and support they need to heal.

The webpage, featuring a video message from Attorney General Tim Fox, can be found at [www.dojmt.gov/SAKI](http://www.dojmt.gov/SAKI). It includes:

Links to survivor resources, including an interactive map to locate nearby services;

Crisis phone numbers and contact information for local victim advocates;

Explanations of community-based advocate and system-based advocate roles;

Confidentiality information;

Progress updates on the SAKI Task Force/Initiative; and

Sexual Assault Response Teams locations.

Soon, the webpage will feature a kit tracking system, allowing survivors to monitor the progress of their sexual assault kit in the testing system. This function will provide a greater level of visibility into how sexual assault kits are processed. The kit tracking system is designed to ensure anonymity and confidentiality for survivors.

In the meantime, survivors can access the newly developed hotline, 1-888-KIT-LINE, or SAKI e-mail service [ContactSAKI@mt.gov](mailto:ContactSAKI@mt.gov), for more information on the status of their sexual assault kit. These new services are specifically for survivors who completed a sexual assault exam in Montana between 1995 and 2015, but do not know if their kit was tested. The hotline does not operate like a crisis line; callers are directed to leave a voicemail in order to receive a return call from the SAKI Advocate.

“The goal is to provide information to sexual assault survivors in ways that minimize revictimization trauma, address the issue of untested sexual assault kits, and connect survivors with resources and professionals who can assist them with healing and potentially moving forward with their cases,” Attorney General Tim Fox said. “Our SAKI and IT teams did an outstanding job of finding ways for survivors to receive information in a manner and at a time appropriate and convenient for them,” Attorney General Fox added.

Survivors may also use contact information provided on the website to opt in or opt out of case information by letting the agency’s SAKI Advocate know their wishes for involvement in their case or preferred notification method. For more information, contact the SAKI Advocate at 1-888-KIT-LINE or [ContactSAKI@mt.gov](mailto:ContactSAKI@mt.gov).

**-END-**

**BACKGROUND:** *In response to nationwide concerns over unsubmitted sexual assault evidence kits in communities across the country, Attorney General Tim Fox took a pro-active approach in Montana two years ago. His office conducted a statewide poll of sheriffs and police chiefs to estimate the number of unsubmitted kits being stored in law enforcement agencies across the state. At that same time, Attorney General Fox brought together a variety of stakeholders as part of his Sexual Assault Evidence Task Force and asked the group to determine precisely how many unsubmitted evidence kits existed in Montana and to work with local law enforcement agencies and others to ensure all would be tested. In 2016, Montana was awarded a [\\$2 million federal grant](#) to test and track unsubmitted sex-assault evidence kits across the state. At the same time, Montana also received a federal NIJ grant for \$284,500 to build a kit tracking database.*



# Policy and Procedure

The building blocks for uniform response to sexual assault.



# Developing Policies & Procedures

- Victim Notification
- Hotline and Email Response
- Cold Case Reviews
- Legislation relating to sexual assault kits
- Protocol for kit submission to the Crime Lab
- Develop policies around Montana Statute of Limitations

# When Do you End Outreach?





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*“One of the most important pieces of the public outreach is meeting face to face with as many people as possible.”*

*- Brian Murphy*

# Contact Information

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