

WHEN WE ALL TAKE RESPONSIBILITY
FOR THE PREVENTION OF SEXUAL ASSAULT,
IT CAN BE ELIMINATED.

Each year more than 11,000 Coloradans are sexually assaulted, costing them dearly in every way, from emotional trauma to economic insecurity.

SEXUAL ASSAULT IS A COMMUNITY ISSUE

Sexual assault is a community issue that calls for a community response – through prevention and education, issue advocacy, and a shift in how we think and talk about sexual violence.

The most powerful way to eliminate the pain of sexual assault is to prevent it from ever happening, which is why The Blue Bench (formerly RAAP) works tirelessly to raise issue awareness and educate the community through prevention programs for schools, organizations and parents. Our aim is for everyone to understand his or her role in preventing sexual assault.

The Blue Bench is Denver's only comprehensive sexual assault prevention and support center. We also help victims at any point on their path toward healing by providing care and resources needed to regain self-sufficiency.

To change the conversation
and learn how your school or group
can utilize our prevention and
education programs, please visit
our website at thebluebench.org
or call us at **303.329.9922 ext. 317.**



At The Blue Bench, our mission is to eliminate sexual assault and diminish the impact it has on individuals, their loved ones and our community through comprehensive issue advocacy, prevention and care.



the blue bench

Putting an end to sexual assault through prevention and care.

Formerly known as RAAP

PO Box 18951 Denver, CO 80218
303.329.9922 TEL 888 394 8044 TOLL-FREE

24-HOUR SEXUAL ASSAULT HOTLINE FOR WOMEN & MEN
303.322.7273 ENGLISH
303.329.0031 ESPANOL

thebluebench.org

PREVENTION & EDUCATION



CHANGING THE CONVERSATION

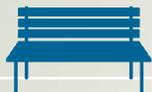
>> FOR THE NEXT GENERATION



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THE PATHWAY TO PREVENTION



At The Blue Bench we believe that the earlier we talk to our children about sexual assault and body safety the better chance we stand to change the conversation and create lifelong awareness and prevention. We offer the *Pathway to Prevention*, a series of prevention and education programs that build and mature with the individual, from youth to adult. Each stage offers age-appropriate content and is designed to engage, empower and educate through social context.

PATHWAY 1: YOUNG CHILD

More than half of all victims of sexual assault are under the age of 18.

Often, people in positions of trust and authority – like parents, peers and teachers – don’t know what to look for or how to intervene in a sexual assault situation. That’s why prevention is so important.

It is important for parents to talk to their children about body safety. Parents can attend **Keeping Kids Safe** classes to learn more about how to have these conversations.

PATHWAY 2: YOUTH

Absenteeism, low concentration and lack of sleep due to concern for safety result in lower grades and an inability to achieve academic success.

Sexual assault can seriously undermine a young person’s education, their overall health and their future. The programs we have developed are specific for middle-school-aged children focusing on creating awareness and changing behaviors related to sexual abuse. Our programs fit the Colorado Department of Education guidelines and include:

- Knowledge Is Power: Sexual Assault Awareness
- Let’s Talk About It: Sexual Assault Prevention for Youth
- Safety & Empowerment Skills for Women (13+)

PATHWAY 3: YOUNG ADULT

Teens 16 to 19 are three-and-a-half times more likely to be victims of rape, attempted rape or sexual assault than other age groups.

By the time children reach high school and college, our goal is that they understand their role in preventing sexual assault for themselves and as active bystanders. Our programs offered for young adults teach decision-making skills and help build empathy for victims. Our programs include:

- Bringing in the Bystander™
- Safety & Empowerment Skills for Women

PATHWAY 4: ADULT

Sexual assault is one of the most under-reported crimes, with 54% still being left unreported.

We offer programs for adults that enable them to comfortably and efficiently talk about sexual assault with their children, their neighbors and within the community. By educating parents we hope to create a pattern of lifelong awareness and issue advocacy, inspiring the next generation to speak up and speak out against sexual violence. We offer adults:

- Keeping Kids Safe and Keeping Youth Safe
- Safety & Empowerment Skills for Women

CHANGING THE CONVERSATION

It is our hope that one day we will live in a world where sexual assault no longer exists. This starts with believing that victims are never to blame. We know that every time we change the conversation around the issue, and educate people of all ages about their role in prevention, we get a step closer to that day.