



**KAMLOOPS SEXUAL ASSAULT  
COUNSELLING CENTRE**

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Over the past year the Kamloops Sexual Assault Counselling Centre has worked hard with community partners to reinstate the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART). After a 13 year hiatus, SART will once again provide immediate support, information and advocacy to individuals who have been sexually assaulted within the past 7 days and are accessing the hospital.

For survivors, the experience of a sexual assault can be devastating and life altering. It takes courage to go to the hospital for medical care and possibly the collection of forensic evidence. Survivors' clothing may be part of evidence collection, leaving them with no clothing to wear home. Their clothing may also be damaged and thus unwearable. And survivors may just want the capacity to change out of the clothing they were in at the time of the assault.

Our goal, therefore, is to use pillow cases to build "comfort cases" that will be given to survivors who attend the hospital. Pillow cases will be built into bags and will include a change of new clothes, undergarments, footwear and other items that can contribute to providing survivors some dignity and security through this incredibly difficult process. It also allows them to replace items they may not have the financial means to replace. And perhaps more importantly, it shows survivors that we, as a community, care about them and are working to support them in meaningful ways. This will be done through a message of caring and a list of those who have helped to create the bag.

We are looking to the community to help us create these "comfort cases". Each bag would ideally contain sweat pants, sweat tops/hoodies, T-shirt, socks, slippers/flip flops (depending on the season), undergarments (panties, sports bras), toothbrush and toothpaste. Size range would be from XS to 3XL and footwear sizes from 5-10. We are asking that all items to be included in the bags be new and gender neutral colours. We want survivors to know they are deserving of new items to replace what they have lost through no fault of their own. We are also looking for individuals who may be interested in helping us decorate or sew our comfort cases.

If you or your organization would like to assist us in this project, please contact our Agency Coordinator, Charlene Eden at 250-372-0179 or [charlene.eden@ksacc.ca](mailto:charlene.eden@ksacc.ca) for more details. We thank you in advance for your support of this project.

Sincerely,

Charlene Eden  
Agency Coordinator