

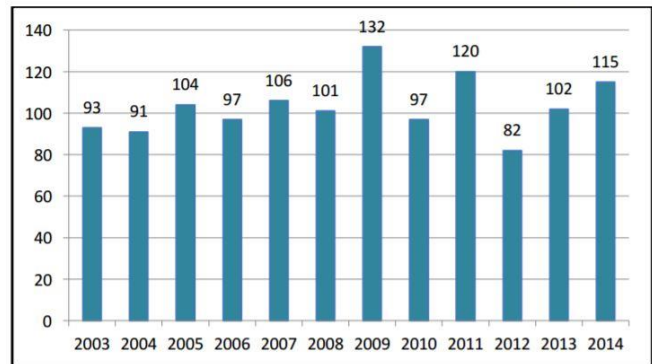
# Fact sheet

## The SANE program

- The Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner(SANE) program at Avalon Sexual Assault Centre is a trauma-informed, client-centered care model where the victim directs all aspects of care.
- A SANE is a registered nurse who has advanced training and education in forensic examinations of sexual assault victims.
- The SANE program offers the following specialized services to all ages/genders up to five days after an assault has occurred:

- Immediate care – emergency response 24/7
- Forensic examination
- Supportive follow-up with the victim
- Testimony in a court of law
- Storage of forensic evidence for up to six months without police involvement

Figure 1: Total Victims Seen by SANEs by Year, All Ages, Avalon SANE Program 2003-2014



- SANEs provides medical examinations and forensic evidence collection in the emergency departments of the IWK Health Centre, QEII Health Sciences Centre, Dartmouth General Hospital and Cobequid Community Health Centre.
- From 2003-2014, the SANEs provided direct services in hospital to a total of 1,240 victims. The average number of victims seen each year during this period is 103 (*SANE Evaluation Report, 2016*).
- Victims/survivors interviewed for the SANE Evaluation Report identified a number of significant benefits of the SANE program, specifically: the consistency in approach and services provided, their privacy was respected, less wait time, confidentiality, caring and sensitivity and comfort (*2016*).