

Justice Heals: Human-Animal Interventions for Survivors of Sexual Assault



Cohort:
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Location:
East Lansing, Michigan

Focus Areas:
Behavioral and Mental Health
One Health
Violence & Trauma

Wicked Problem Description

Sequelae of sexual assault have jeopardized the Culture of Health for the Michigan State University (MSU) campus community.

While MSU has been particularly devastated by notorious sexual misconduct and institutional betrayal, campus statistics reflect a national crisis of sexual assault.

Project Strategies

- One Welfare is an approach that acknowledges the reciprocal benefits of AAI.
- MSU's Sexual Assault Program (SAP) utilizes animal-assisted interventions in the form of a canine advocate, named Justice.
- Justice suffers from generalized anxiety, and survivors who seek services from SAP are actively engaged in and feel normalized by Justice's behavioral health plan.
- A One Welfare approach to animal-assisted interventions for survivors of sexual assault on the campus of Michigan State University: Justice Heals.