

# October 2007 is Compassionate Care for Rape Victims Month



October is Compassionate Care for Rape Victims (CCRV) Month in Wisconsin. In recognition of Wisconsin's thousands of rape survivors, sexual assault advocates and women's health supporters, join us as we dedicate our efforts this month to ensure that compassionate care is offered to all victims of sexual assault in hospital emergency rooms throughout the state.

**Our goal:** Pass CCRV legislation (Senate Bill 129 & Assembly Bill 377) without amendment in the State Assembly so it can become law.

## DID YOU KNOW...

- Nationally, over 300,000 women are raped each year, resulting in over 25,000 unintended pregnancies. It's estimated that only 36% of rape victims ever report an assault and in 2004, an estimated 4,775 female sexual assaults were reported in Wisconsin. If emergency care facilities routinely provided EC, up to 22,000 pregnancies resulting from rape each year could be prevented.
- Emergency contraception (EC) is a safe and reliable FDA-approved contraceptive method that works to prevent pregnancy after unprotected sex. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists recommend that emergency facilities provide EC to all sexual assault patients.
- A 2006 survey of 109 Wisconsin hospital emergency departments shows that only one-third of Wisconsin hospitals provide emergency contraception on site without exception to rape victims.
- The Compassionate Care for Rape Victims Bills ensures this happens by requiring hospital emergency rooms to give rape victims information about EC and access to this medication to prevent pregnancy following assault.

**For more information on how to get involved and to help pass  
Compassionate Care for Rape Victims in Wisconsin, visit:**

**[www.supportwomenshealth.org](http://www.supportwomenshealth.org)**