

Two years after Megan Rondini's death, Tuscaloosa SAFE Center opens

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Before the opening of the new SAFE Center, students at UA, as well as the majority of people living in West Alabama, would have had to travel to Birmingham to receive a SANE-certified forensic exam.

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A center that performs sexual assault forensic exams will open in Tuscaloosa on Oct. 15, one year after a civil suit claimed the Tuscaloosa Sheriff's Department and the University of Alabama mishandled a student's sexual assault case.

Tuscaloosa's [new SAFE Center](#), which stands for Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner, will provide forensic exams by SANE-certified nurses from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on weekdays and are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week by calling a hotline.

SANE nurses -- Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner -- are registered nurses trained to provide comprehensive care to sexual assault victims. Survivors of sexual assault are encouraged to visit the center within 72 hours of their assault.

Before the opening of the new SAFE Center, students at UA, as well as



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