

The Keller Center

Working in collaboration with the following San Mateo County agencies:

- **Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse (CORA)**
24-hr Domestic Violence Hotline: 650-312-8515
or 1-800-300-1080
- **Rape Trauma Services**
24-hr Hotline:
650-692-RAPE (692-7273)
- **Child Protective Services**
24-hr Hotline:
1-800-632-4615
- **Adult Protective Services**
24-hr Hotline:
1-800-675-8437
- **Victim Center: 1-800-777-9229**
- **Sheriff's Office & Local Police**
- **District Attorney & Courts**
- **Probation**
- **Mental Health Services**
- **San Mateo Medical Center**
- **Health Services Agency**

To make a tax deductible contribution to the Keller Center, contact the San Mateo Medical Center Foundation at 222 West 39th Avenue, San Mateo, CA 94403 or call 650-573-2655



THE KELLER CENTER
FOR FAMILY VIOLENCE INTERVENTION
222 W. 39th AVENUE
SAN MATEO CA 94403



THE
KELLER CENTER
FOR FAMILY VIOLENCE
INTERVENTION

A GIFT OF THE
GEORGE AND ADELAIDE
KELLER FOUNDATION



Accredited by the National Children's Alliance

SAN MATEO MEDICAL CENTER
222 West 39th Avenue
San Mateo CA 94403
650-573-2623
www.sanmateomedicalcenter.org

The Keller Center, A place to turn for help when it's needed most...

A child with signs of sexual abuse, an adult victim of rape, a woman beaten by her partner, or an elder neglected by his family or caregiver ...all may find their way to the Keller Center for Family Violence Intervention at the San Mateo Medical Center.

Opened in September of 2001, the Keller Center provides comprehensive forensic medical evaluations, crisis intervention, forensic interviews and coordination of social and community services for victims of sexual assault, child sexual abuse, domestic violence, and elder and dependent adult abuse. The Keller Center also emphasizes community-based education and prevention to end the cycle of violence.

With initial funding from a three-year grant from George and Addie Keller, longtime benefactors of the San Mateo Medical Center, the center is located next to the Emergency Department in the new Diagnostic and Treatment building of the Medical Center. "George and I made a commitment to support the center because we knew that taxes alone weren't enough to establish and sustain this type of facility," said Addie Keller. The Kellers joined with the hospital staff to design their dream center and provided a significant donation to see its wide-ranging program through to reality.

In cases of sexual abuse and assault, Law Enforcement and/or Child Protective Services personnel request all forensic medical evaluations to be performed at the Keller Center, regardless of the victim's age or gender. These evaluations are conducted in a private setting away from the emergency department 24-hours a day. Specially trained forensic interviewers conduct age and developmentally appropriate interviews of child victims in a safe, child-friendly setting.



*Kris Bleything, Children's Services Coordinator,
listens to a child in the beautifully muraled
interview room of the Keller Center.*

Whether the issue is child abuse, sexual assault, elder abuse or domestic violence, a response team is available around the clock to work with community agencies to support victims and their families. Community based advocates and counselors are available to provide support and advocacy to victims and families, and to assist in obtaining restraining orders and in finding shelter. Referrals are made for ongoing counseling and legal assistance. Other treatment options include creation of a safety plan to protect the victim from future violence, and appropriate referrals for follow-up care and counseling.

The staff for the center include Dr. Larry Bedard, Adult Services Medical Director; Dr. Hilda Dudum, Pediatric Services Medical Director; Kathi Palange, Vice President of Patient Services; Sylvia Baez, Patient Services Assistant; Diana Cummings NP, Adult Services Clinical Coordinator, Kris Bleything NP, Children's Services Clinical Coordinator; and a 24-hour/day team of specialized forensic examiners.

The Keller Center works in collaboration with the legal and judicial systems to facilitate effective investigations and prosecutions. In all cases, clinicians at the Keller Center perform comprehensive forensic examinations and collect legal evidence in a manner that is compassionate and culturally sensitive, while protecting the rights and of the victim.