

## Reducing gender violence

A \$300,000 grant from the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice, is being used to enhance the university's Gender Violence Prevention Program. The St. Cloud State Women's Center initiative is designed to help reduce sexual assaults, domestic/dating violence and stalking on campus and in the community, strengthen victim services, and increase apprehension, investigation and adjudication of cases of gender violence on and off campus.

To achieve the goals of the three-year project, the Women's Center is collaborating with Anna Marie's Battered Women's Shelter, the Central Minnesota Sexual Assault Center, the St. Cloud Police Department, the office of the Stearns County Attorney and the Stearns County Family Violence/Sexual Assault Council.

Development of a peer education program for men, a procedure for responding to relationship violence and stalking crimes, an enhanced educational program for new students, enhanced victim services with more accessible information, a coordinated community response to stalking and a five-year plan for increased prosecution of sexual assault cases are all part of the project.