

Maria's Story

"I'm glad to be able to bring my kids here."

No hablo inglés. Those were the first words Maria spoke when she walked in the door of the Survivor Resource Center. Traumatized after being sexually assaulted by a coworker, she was nervous about talking to a counselor and worried about the language barrier. However, Maria began working with a bilingual advocate who made her feel more comfortable communicating in her primary language. She felt overwhelmed by shame, anger, sadness, and fear – fear of the man who assaulted her as well fear of the future, with her husband as the sole provider. (Maria quit her job after her supervisor refused to acknowledge what happened or offer support). She began working with a Sexual Trauma Resource Center counselor to address her trauma. With support from the Survivor Resource Center, she also applied for food stamps, began looking for housing, and started the process of enrolling her children in pre-K. Maria has found the strength and support she needed to begin moving forward after her assault.