Economic Impact of Sexual Violence

CDC published a study, “Lifetime Economic Burden of Rape Among U.S. Adults,” in the American Journal of Preventive Medicine in 2017. Using mathematical modeling researchers were able to estimate the lifetime per-victim and total population economic burden of rape among adults in the US.¹

- $122,461 is the estimated lifetime cost per rape victim.²
- $282,000 is the estimated lifetime cost for survivors of child sexual abuse.²
- $3.1 trillion dollars is the cost of rape to our society.²
- Underserved populations experience additional barriers to reporting sexual assault and additional finance impact.
- The National Violence Against Women Survey found that more than 19% of adult female rape survivors and more than 9% of adult male rape survivors said their victimizations caused them to lose time from work.

Tips of Advocates
- Connect survivors to economic resources
- Advocate for accommodations in school or workplace
- Beware of discrimination
- Work within the Justice System - (Reparations and Replevins)
- Use resources through the Criminal Injury Compensation Board http://www.dpsc.state.md.us/victimservs/cicb/index.shtml

Giving Voice to the Economic Impact of Sexual Violence
In these videos you will hear sexual assault survivors explain the financial impact of their sexual assault.
- Tedx Talk - The (literal) Cost of Not Believing Survivors https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S6Gy2WsBjk4
- How Rape and Sexual Assault Impact your Career https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b_lycN_zxbI

¹ The Resource, The National Sexual Violence Resource Center Newsletter, Fall 2018