A. BRIEF OVERVIEW OF AGENCY SETTING
S.A.F.E. is the only agency in Ravalli County providing services to victims of family violence, battering and sexual assault. Services are also provided to children of victims. Our services include a 24 hour crisis line, emergency housing, case management, peer counseling, advocacy with the legal, medical, law enforcement and court systems, support groups and referrals.

S.A.F.E. is a feminist organization which utilizes the empowerment model with clients as well as staff and volunteers.

B. DESCRIPTION OF CLIENT GROUP
S.A.F.E. provides services to male and female victims of family violence and sexual assault and their minor children. Our clients are primarily women but we have had an increasing number of men utilizing our services. Clients reside in Ravalli County, range in age from teens to senior citizens and are from a diverse range of socio-economic backgrounds. Endemic of the locale, there is little ethnic diversity and the majority of our clientele are/or become low/no income. We offer services to anyone regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, creed, religious or sexual preference.

C. LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES
Students will have the opportunity to experience all aspects of working in a rural, non-profit organization which offers services to victims of abuse. This includes direct service with clients, facilitation of support groups, one on one crisis counseling, case management and advocacy, in-services/trainings and public speaking. There are also opportunities for grant research and writing, fundraising and program development. There are excellent opportunities to explore and learn about the challenges of non-profit social service operation and clients’ ability to access services in a rural setting.

D. EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS
Students are expected to act ethically and professionally, especially in observing the confidentiality of clients and safe home locations. Students are expected to demonstrate a level of maturity when dealing with crisis situations. Students would be encouraged to gain experience in areas that interest them and would assist them in their future goals. Students would be regarded as staff so responsibility and reliability are essential.