

## RESOURCES FOR MEDICAL CARE

**Spartanburg Regional  
Forensic Nurse**  
864-909-0341

## RESOURCES FOR SUPPORT AND MENTAL HEALTH CARE

**Wofford Counseling Services**  
864-597-4370

**Chaplain**  
864-597-4051

**Project R.E.S.T.**  
864-583-9803

**988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline**  
Dial 988

**National Domestic Violence Hotline**  
1-800-799-7233

**VictimConnect Helpline**  
855-484-2846

**RAINN**  
1-800-656-4673

## RESOURCES TO PURSUE INVESTIGATION, SUPPORTIVE MEASURES OR TO MAKE A REPORT

**Title IX Office**  
864-597-4048

**Wofford Campus Safety**  
864-597-4911

**Spartanburg County Sheriff's Office**  
864-503-4500

**Spartanburg City Police Department**  
864-596-2035

**South Carolina Legal Services**  
1-888-346-5592

## Sexual Assault Response Team WOFFORD COLLEGE

**Title IX Office**  
864-597-4048



# Supporting Survivors of Sexual Assault:

## A GUIDE FOR WOFFORD FACULTY AND STAFF

As a Wofford employee, there may be a time when you will need to support a student or co-worker who has been sexually assaulted.

This guide will help you support the individual and fulfill your responsibilities as a mandatory reporter.

### INFORM

the person that you are a mandatory reporter and are required to report what they share with you to the Title IX office.

### SUPPORT

the person through active listening and validating statements.

### REFER

the person to the appropriate resources.

### REPORT

the information shared with you to the Title IX office.



## HOW DO YOU RESPOND?

### 1. INFORM

As soon as you sense that someone may want to disclose a sexual assault to you, identify yourself as a mandatory reporter and explain what that means. This allows a survivor to make a choice about what happens next.

You can say something like: “I’m sensing that there is something important that you want to share with me. I want to let you know that I am a mandatory reporter. I cannot ensure confidentiality. If you share with me that you have been assaulted, harassed, or experienced a bias incident, I will need to report that to the Title IX office. I want you to be able to choose what happens next. If you no longer want to share with me, I can tell you about some people you can talk to confidentially.”

If they choose to share their story with you, you will go through all of the following steps. If they do not choose to continue telling you their story, it will be appropriate to refer them to one of the confidential resources.

### 2. SUPPORT

Support comes in many forms. If someone chooses to talk to you after they’ve been made aware of your responsibility as a mandatory reporter, it is important to be an active listener.

Here are things that are important to remember when supporting the survivor.

- Confirm that the person is safe. If they are not, it will be appropriate to work with Campus Safety to ensure their safety.
- Listen nonjudgmentally. It is not your responsibility to determine what happened or investigate.
- Respond with compassion.
- Validate what they have told you.
- Ask what more you can do to help them.

Here is a list of websites that have helpful advice about specific things that you can say.

- [joyfulheartfoundation.org/6-steps-to-support-a-survivor](http://joyfulheartfoundation.org/6-steps-to-support-a-survivor)
- [startbybelieving.org/whattosay](http://startbybelieving.org/whattosay)
- [RAINN.org/TALK](http://RAINN.org/TALK)
- [NSVRC.org/how-to-help](http://NSVRC.org/how-to-help)

Things to keep in mind for yourself.

Receiving news like this can be very difficult for you. It is okay for you to seek out support after you have helped someone else.

### 3. REFER

After you have spent some time listening to the survivor, it is important refer them to places where they can continue to receive specialized support. Some resources will help students to pursue investigations or supportive measures. Others will provide mental health support or medical care.

*(Resources listed on inside cover of brochure.)*

### 4. REPORT

As a mandatory reporter, you will always need to report what a survivor has shared with you. Even if you have referred them to other resources, you must report the incident to the Title IX coordinator by clicking on the Mandatory Reporter Form link on the Title IX web page. The Title IX Office will invite the survivor to make an appointment with the Title IX coordinator and will notify Campus Safety for Clery reporting. The Title IX coordinator will aid the student in getting appropriate support (academic, residential, etc).