

# SEXUAL VIOLENCE DOESN'T STOP DURING A PANDEMIC

## Here's how you can help.

Staying at home can mean greater risk of sexual violence, dating abuse and stalking for some students. A faculty or staff member may be a safe lifeline. If a student discloses to you, here's what you can do:

### LISTEN

**to students and let them know they are not alone.** If the student is in immediate danger, tell them to call 911 or another emergency resource. Thank the student for sharing with you. [Watch this video](#) for more things you can say.

### BE AWARE

**that identity matters.** Black and other minoritized students are less likely to seek formal supports and report their abuse than their white peers. Understand that systemic racism and inequality also leaves some students more vulnerable to the impacts of COVID-19.

### EXPLAIN

**the limits of confidentiality.** As a Rutgers employee you are encouraged to report incidents to your campus' [Title IX Coordinator](#), and students can always choose whether or not to make a formal report. [Click here](#) to learn how to report.

### TELL THEM

**that help is still available remotely.** Each of the [Victim Assistance and Violence Prevention \(VPVA\) offices](#) are open and available for counseling, and additional remote resources for students can be found [here](#).

### REMEMBER

**not to judge students' reactions.** There is no 'right way' to react to trauma, and the way that you respond matters. Know that students may decide not to make a formal report for many reasons, and let them know you trust their decision.

### CONNECT

**the student to resources:**  
[Rutgers VPVA Offices](#)  
[Title IX Offices](#)  
[Confidential Counseling Resources](#)  
[Student Health Services](#)  
[COVID Resources](#)  
[Office of Diversity, Inclusion & Equity](#)  
[Support for Faculty and Staff](#)

### GET TRAINED

Remote and in-person training is available for staff and faculty on supporting students and colleagues. Contact Training Coordinator Kaylin Padovano: [kaylin@rutgers.edu](mailto:kaylin@rutgers.edu) or 848-932-1784 to schedule.

**We R. Here**  
Support Services for Victims of Violence

**RUTGERS**

School of Social Work  
**CENTER ON VIOLENCE AGAINST  
WOMEN AND CHILDREN**