## If you or someone you know has been sexually assaulted:

- *Try* to: get to a safe place and call 9-1-1 if you are in immediate danger; reach out to the Union County Rape Crisis Center (908) 233-7273 for information/crisis services; and seek medical attention through such steps as activating your local SART.
- *Try not to*: change your clothes, bathe, shower, douche, urinate, eat, drink, smoke, brush teeth, or gargle.

#### Sexual Assault Response Team (SART)

A program which streamlines assistance provided to victims of sexual assault. A survivor of sexual assault is eligible for SART services when:

- the victim is 13-years of age or older;
- the assault occurred within the past 5 days;
- and the victim consents to a SART activation.

The team is comprised of three (3) members:

- Law enforcement officer;
- Confidential Sexual Violence Advocate (CSVA);
  - Forensic Nurse Examiner (FNE)

Victims choose which team members will be activated to assist them. The victim has the right to speak privately with a CSVA prior to and during any investigative and medical forensic interviews or procedures.



## 2024 Union County Board of County Commissioners

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Or call (908) 233-7273 (908) 232-1435 (TTY - Business Hours Only)

Támara Adelman, UC Rape Crisis Center, Administrator

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### UNION COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

# UNION COUNTY RAPE CRISIS CENTER

## A Sexual Violence Resource Center

## 24-Hour Hotline (908) 233-7273







#### About Us

The Union County Rape Crisis Center (UCRCC) is a program that operates under the Division of Individual & Family Support Services in the Union County Department of Human Services.

#### Mission

By engaging in direct service, primary prevention education, training, and consultation, the UCRCC aims to shift prevailing beliefs and attitudes toward intolerance of all forms of interpersonal violence.

#### Vision

Working together as members of a team, our goal is to excel in exhibiting compassion, respect, dependability, and integrity while serving and empowering victims of sexual violence.

#### Diversity, Equity, Inclusion Statement

The UCRCC is on a mission to cultivate an environment that fosters empowerment, growth, meaningfulness, diversity, and unity through honoring the inherent dignity, value, identity, life experience, and contributions of everyone. It is through the expression of our shared humanity that we rise.

#### 24-Hour Hotline

The UCRCC operates a twenty-four (24) hour sexual assault crisis response and informational hotline. Via the 24-hour hotline, specially trained Confidential Sexual Violence Advocates (CSVAs) provide emotional support, crisis counseling, advocacy, and information.

#### **In-Person Accompaniments**

Our CSVAs provide **in-person accompaniment to medical proceedings** (i.e. sexual assault forensic examinations) **and law enforcement interviews** (i.e. filing a police report or making a statement with the police, legal meetings, and/or court proceedings, including but not limited to civil protective/restraining order hearings).

#### Counseling

The UCRCC offers free, confidential, **trauma informed short-term counseling** services to survivors of sexual violence as well as survivors' nonoffending significant others. Our goal is to help clients heal from the trauma of sexual violence, increase healthy coping strategies, and create support systems.

#### **Prevention/Community Education**

In addition to providing direct services, the UCRCC conducts primary prevention education through a curriculum entitled, *Gender and Violence: How Media Shapes Our Culture.* Such education is offered to the surrounding school systems and/or community organizations.

#### **Volunteer Opportunities**

The UCRCC trains volunteers in the community to serve as Confidential Sexual Violence Advocates (CSVAs). Volunteers answer calls via the 24-hour hotline and provide in-person accompaniment during medical and legal proceedings. Once trained, opportunities can extend to helping with outreach and/or training.

#### Information/Resources

Multi-agency service referrals are available for survivors and/or significant others seeking medical, legal and/or financial information as well as other community resources.

All services provided by the Union County Rape Crisis Center are <u>free of charge</u> and are provided in a manner that preserves the victim's privacy and <u>safeguards</u> <u>the victim's right to confidentiality</u> pursuant to (N.J.S.A. 2A:84A-22.15).

