You Are Not Alone

Seeking help in cases of sexual or interpersonal violence
# Table of Contents

Definitions........................................................................................................................................... 2
Someone to Talk to ................................................................................................................................. 4
  Disclosure vs. Reporting....................................................................................................................... 4
  On-Campus Crisis Counseling........................................................................................................... 4
  Fully Confidential Counseling........................................................................................................... 6
Medical Attention ................................................................................................................................. 7
Your Reporting Options ......................................................................................................................... 8
Law Enforcement/Legal Attention ......................................................................................................... 9
Helpful Tips........................................................................................................................................... 11
  Your Rights....................................................................................................................................... 11
  How Can I Help Stop Violence?......................................................................................................... 11
  Getting Help Flowchart.................................................................................................................... 12
What is Sexual Assault?

SEXUAL ASSAULT is a crime and will not be tolerated at Gateway Community College (GCC). Sexual assault is compelling by force, or by threat of force, the following: sexual penetration of the vagina or anus, including by an object; oral sex; or contact with a person’s genital area, groin, anus, inner thigh, buttocks or breasts for the purpose of sexual gratification of the actor or for the purpose of degrading or humiliating the victim.

Sexual assault is also intentionally subjecting another to such contact without consent. Any person can be a victim or a perpetrator. Sexual assault includes physical sexual acts perpetrated against a person’s will or where a person is incapable of giving consent due to drugs or alcohol, due to an intellectually or other disability.

Examples of sexual assault include: rape, attempted rape, sexual battery, sexual coercion, intentional touching (without consent) of a person’s genital area, groin, anus, inner thighs, buttocks or breasts for sexual gratification or to degrade the victim.

What is Intimate Partner Violence?

INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE includes physical, emotional, economic, sexual, and/or threats of abuse by a current or former partner or spouse:
• **Physical abuse**, which can involve but is not limited to, slapping, pulling hair or punching.

• **Emotional abuse**, which can include but is not limited to, damage to one’s property, driving recklessly to scare someone, or name calling.

• **Economic abuse**, which can involve making or attempting to make an individual financially dependent by maintaining total control over financial resources, withholding one’s access to money, or forbidding one’s attendance at school or employment.

• **Sexual abuse**, coercing or attempting to coerce any sexual contact or behavior without consent. Sexual abuse includes, but is not limited to, marital rape, attacks on sexual parts of the body, forcing sex after physical violence has occurred, or treating one in a sexually demeaning manner.

• **Threat of abuse**, which can include but is not limited to, threatening to hit, harm or use a weapon on another (whether victim or acquaintance, friend or family member of the victim) or other forms of verbal threat.

### What is Stalking?

**STALKING** is any behaviors or activities occurring on more than one occasion that collectively instill fear in the victim and/or threaten her/his safety, mental health and/or physical health. Such behaviors or activities may include, but are not limited to, whether on or off campus, non-consensual communications (face to face, telephone, e-mail, etc.), threatening or obscene gestures, surveillance or being present outside the victim’s classroom or workplace.

### What is Consent?

**CONSENT** must be informed, freely and actively given, involving an understandable exchange of affirmative words or actions, which indicates a willingness to participate in mutually agreed upon sexual activity.

• It is the responsibility of the initiator to obtain clear and affirmative responses at each stage of sexual involvement.

• The lack of a negative response is not consent.

• Consent may not be given by a minor or by any individual who is incapacitated, whether voluntarily or involuntarily, by drugs and/or alcohol.

• Past consent of sexual activities does not imply ongoing future consent.
Disclosure vs. Reporting
Levels of Confidentiality

Full Confidentiality
If you are speaking with a professional who is fully confidential, then the information you provide regarding sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and/or stalking will not be shared with anyone without your written consent.

Examples of Fully-Confidential Resources:
• Women and Families Center
• Umbrella Center for Domestic Violence
• Therapists
• Physicians

Limited Confidentiality
All college employees have a duty to report information that comes to their attention of a possible sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and/or stalking. The information is reported to the Student Development office and the College will conduct a full investigation to ensure campus safety (per legal mandate).

Reporting an incident:
• Names and locations pertaining to the misconduct are provided to the college employee.
• In this case, the College must conduct a full investigation.
• Reporting an incident to a college employee is a separate step from choosing to legally prosecute your perpetrator.

Disclosing an incident:
• The fact that the incident has occurred is discussed without providing the college employee with names or locations pertaining to the misconduct.
• In this case, the college employee will document the fact that the incident has occurred with the Student Development Office.
• No investigation can be conducted due to lack of information provided.
On-Campus Crisis Counseling
Student Success Center

N213, 203-285-2090

To ensure swift access, when calling, be sure to indicate that it is a crisis situation, and the student will be seen immediately.

• Immediate counseling appointments for crisis situations

• Free for students

• Limited confidentiality. Counselors have a duty to communicate information (to the Student Development office) that comes to their attention of possible sexual misconduct such as sexual assault, intimate partner violence, and stalking

• Assistance with referrals to confidential community resources
The Hill Health Center offers individual counseling services to students. We provide healthcare services for a fee and are able to offer reduced rates to people without insurance as long as they qualify based on income.

- Confidential counseling
- Locations throughout New Haven, including on campus

Women & Families Center-Sexual Assault Crisis Services (SACS)

24-hour Hotline: 888-999-5545 (English)
888-568-8332 (Spanish)

SACS covers Meriden, Wallingford, Cheshire, Middlesex County, and Greater New Haven, offering assistance to survivors and their loved ones. Hotlines are open 24/7 with immediate access to trained, certified counselors who maintain confidentiality. Additionally, Spanish and sign language interpreters are available. Services include:

- Short-term individual crisis counseling
- Support groups
- Campus advocacy
- Volunteer opportunities
- Information and referrals
- Education programs

New Haven Vet Center: Sexual Trauma Program

203-932-9899

Provides sexual trauma and harassment counseling to veterans of both genders who have been honorably discharged.
The Umbrella Center for Domestic Violence Services

- Greater New Haven: 203-789-8104
- Lower Naugatuck Valley: 203-736-9944
- Statewide Hotline Toll Free: 1-888-774-2900

Hotlines are open 24/7 with immediate access to trained, certified counselors who maintain confidentiality. Services include:

- Individual and group counseling
- Court based services
- Latino outreach
- Safe houses
- Lethality Assessment Program with local police
- CHERISH Program (Late Life Victims)
- Safe Connection – Prisoner Re-Entry Program (Victims)
- Community Education
- My Sister’s Place (Thrift Shop)

National Domestic Violence Hotline

1-800-799-SAFE (7233)
Medical Attention
Yale New Haven Hospital

203-688-2222

Yale provides services 24/7 and has trained staff who can collect the necessary evidence to aid a criminal investigation.

- Medical evaluation and treatment
- Medical evidence collection facilitation
- Emergency contraception
- Screening for STD/infections
- Medication to prevent any STD/infection
Your Reporting Options

Student Development Office or Campus Security

Student Development: N213, 203-285-2090
Campus Security: 203-285-2246

The Student Development office will:
- Resolve discipline cases
- Investigate allegations involving students
- Assist students with referrals to confidential community resources
- Provide those involved in a report of sexual harassment, sexual assault or intimate partner violence, reasonably available options for changing academic, campus transportation, housing or working situations as well as honoring lawful protective or temporary restraining orders

The GCC Security office will:
- Connect you with supportive services
- Report incident to the Student Development office

Rights of Those Who Report

Those who report any type of sexual misconduct, including sexual harassment, sexual assault or intimate partner violence, to any GCC employee will be informed in a timely manner of all their rights and options, including the necessary steps and potential outcomes of each option. When choosing a reporting resource the following information should be considered:
- Request a no contact order
- Request changes in academic, campus transportation (if applicable), or working situations
- Lawful protective or temporary restraining orders will be honored by GCC
- Be free from threat of retaliation
- Be informed in writing regarding the investigation outcome
- Notify law enforcement and receive assistance from campus authorities in making the notification
Law Enforcement/Legal Attention

Police- Emergency

911

Your local police department will:
• Help you to obtain medical assistance
• Conduct a criminal investigation
• In the event of an arrest, obtain court order to protect you
• Connect you with support services

In Connecticut, all survivors of crime have rights that are protected by law including:
• Assistance in obtaining immediate medical care, if required. Obtain a protective order, apply for a temporary restraining order or seek enforcement of an existing order. Information pertaining to how to apply for a restraining order is through the Office for Victim Services (1-800-822-8428).
• Request to be notified of court proceedings, including arrest, arraignment, and release of the offender.
• Be protected from harassment from an employer for appearing as a witness if you have received a subpoena.
• Have property returned if it was seized by police in the investigation or prosecution of the crime committed against you.
• Make an application for compensation for any bodily injuries you have suffered as a result of the crime.
• Request to be informed of services and agencies that can help you, including the assistance of a court-based victim advocate.

In addition, if you are a survivor of family violence, including threats of violence:
• The police have the responsibility of whether or not to make an arrest. An officer can arrest your abusive partner with or without your consent if the officer believes a crime has been committed.
• You have the right to request the arrest of an offender and the right to file a complaint with the police.

• If your abusive partner is arrested for a family violence crime, he/she must appear in court the next court day, at which time you can request a protective order.

• If your partner is arrested, there is a family violence victim advocate in court to provide services and support to you. Family Violence Intervention Units in each court evaluate cases and provide services for both victims and offenders.

• If you want to know when your partner is scheduled to appear in court, you can contact the clerk of the court for that information. You are encouraged to keep in touch with the victim advocate to see which court hearings are important for you to attend.

**Connecticut Network for Legal Aid**

Connecticut’s Legal Aid programs worked together and created CTLawHelp.org to help people with very limited income find help for their legal problems. The website will try to answer your questions and give you legal information and tools to help you represent yourself.
Your Rights

You have a right to:

• Be treated with respect and dignity.

• Privacy. This means you can refuse to answer any questions about the sexual assault, your sexual orientation, your sexual, medical (including HIV status), and your mental health history.

• Have conversations with licensed counselors in the community.

• Decide whether or not you want police to investigate the assault.

• Not be judged based on your race, age, class, gender, or sexual orientation.

• Have a counselor/advocate accompany you to the medical and legal proceedings.
• Request that someone you are comfortable with stay with you in the exam room.
• Ask questions and get answers regarding any tests, exams, medications, treatments or police reports.
• Be considered a victim/survivor of sexual assault, regardless of the offender’s relationship to you.

How Can I Help Stop Violence?
Public safety is everyone’s responsibility. Consider the following ways you can work to stop sexual violence and intimate partner violence.
• Speak up. Take a stand in situations that could escalate.
• Talk openly with your friends about these issues.
• Encourage student leaders, coaches, professors, and others to provide information about sexual assault to students.
• Use the resources listed in this brochure to inform yourself and help plan activities and programs for campus clubs and organizations.
• Don’t be afraid to get involved.
• Take care of yourself and your friends.
Getting Help Flowchart

Would the student like to speak with someone?

Yes

Would the student like to speak with someone internal or external to GCC?

External

Would the student like to speak with someone confidentially?

No

New Haven Police 911

Yes

Women & Families Center, 888-999-5545
Umbrella Center for Domestic Violence, 203-789-8104

Provide student with packet of information

Internal

Would the student like to speak with someone confidentially, or someone with a duty to report?

Duty to Report

Student Success Center, Student Development Office 203-285-2090

Confidential

Hill Health Center, 203-503-3740