



TITLE IX VICTIM SUPPORT

The following information is to provide support to individuals who receive reports of sexual violence at Belmont University:

HOW TO SUPPORT A VICTIM:

- Believe them
- Listen with empathy
- Communicate without judgment
- Ask them what they need
- Help to establish safety
- Be there for them
- Know and share resources
- Be patient and present
- Role model self care

WHAT TO SAY:

- "Thank you for telling me."
- "I believe you."
- "It's not your fault."
- "I'm sorry this happened to you."
- "I care about you."
- "How can I help you?"
- "I'm always here for you."

THINGS TO REMEMBER:

- Anyone can be a victim
- Only the offender is responsible
- Recovery is not linear; victims/survivors experience trauma differently and it changes over time
- Sexual violence is a crime where sex is used as the weapon; it is about power and control

RESOURCES TO LINK TO:

A Recovery Guide for Survivors

Sexual Assault Center

**TN Coalition to End Domestic
and Sexual Violence**

MNPD Sex Crimes Unit

**YWCA of Nashville and Middle
Tennessee**

COUNSELING HOTLINES:

24 Hour Nashville Sexual Assault Hotline
800-879-1999

National Domestic Violence Hotline
800-799-7233

24 Hour Suicide Prevention Hotline
800-273-8255

Nashville Crisis Intervention Hotline
615-244-7444