Kutztown University Policy STU-022

Reporting and Handling of Rape/Sex Assault

The primary focus of intervention immediately following a rape or sexual assault is referral of the victim for medical evaluation and introduction to advocacy and counseling services. In the event of the rape or sexual assault of a Kutztown University student or guest, the following procedure is recommended:

1. During normal operating hours (8:00 am to 8:00 pm Monday through Thursday; 8:00 am to 6:00 pm Friday; 10:00 am to 6:00 pm Saturday & Sunday), a survivor of rape or sexual assault may seek medical evaluation and access to other support services through the University Health and Wellness Center. Students can also receive medical evaluation and access to support services through community hospital emergency rooms.

   If seen at the University Health and Wellness Center*****, the student will be evaluated medically and referred, **based on the student's condition and wishes**, to one or more of the following services:

   A. Local hospital emergency room - for medical treatment and potential collection of evidence of the assault. (Hospital personnel are required to report a sexual crime to the police.)

   B. Berks Women in Crisis - for emotional support and advocacy services (services are confidential).

   C. Department of Public Safety and Police Services - for interview and discussion of legal options regarding the assault/rape, including any necessary referral to appropriate law enforcement agency having legal jurisdiction.

   D. University Counseling Services - for follow-up counseling services or emergency mental health consultation. (Services are confidential.)

   E. Judicial Services - for interview and discussion of potential student code of conduct violations.

   ***** The University Health and Wellness Center is required to report the occurrence of a sexual assault or rape to the Department of Public Safety and Police Services at Kutztown University. This does not obligate the student to press criminal charges.

2. After normal operating hours of the University Health and Wellness Center (see section 1), a survivor of rape or sexual assault can access services through contact with a University staff member or community professional in any of the following units or agencies:

A. Department of Public Safety and Police Services (X 4001). A Public Safety and Police Services officer will take an initial report, if possible, and arrange for medical evaluation and referral to advocacy and support services based on the needs and wishes of the student.

B. Residence Hall professional staff member on duty. Ask a residence hall desk receptionist in any building to assist in contacting the professional staff member on duty who will be able to assist with access to medical and support services.

C. Berks Women in Crisis (Berks County, 610-373-2053), or Crime Victims Council (Lehigh County, 610-437-6611).

D. University Counseling Services. Request a consultation with the counselor-oncall from the office of University Counseling Services by calling the Department of Public Safety and Police Services. In the residence halls, a Building Director can assist with contacting a counselor-on-call or arranging medical evaluation through the Department of Public Safety and Police Services.

A campus professional staff member may also recommend a referral to the office of Judicial Services to discuss the possibility of a student code of conduct violation related to the sexual offense.

3. If a survivor of a sexual assault/rape makes an anonymous report of an incident, the individual who is notified should encourage the victim to:

   A. Seek medical evaluation. Provide information about the University Health Center and /or local medical facilities.

   B. Contact Berks Women in Crisis for advocacy and support services.

   C. Contact University Counseling Services for follow-up counseling or emergency mental health evaluation, if indicated.

   D. Contact the office of Judicial Services to discuss possible student code of conduct violations.

   E. Department of Public Safety and Police Services - for interview and discussion of legal options regarding the assault/rape, including any necessary referral to appropriate law enforcement agency having legal jurisdiction.

4. If a sexual assault/rape occurs off campus, but is reported to Public Safety and Police Services, the incident will be referred to the appropriate law enforcement agency having legal jurisdiction. This does not prevent involvement with other support/advocacy services or the Office of Judicial Services at Kutztown University.

Transportation: If a student is in need of transportation for medical evaluation following a rape or sexual assault, arrangements can be made through the Kutztown University Department of Public Safety and Police Services.

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