

CONFIDENTIALITY AND LIMITS OF SERVICE

Please read the following statements carefully. If you have any questions, please ask your CARE advocate. After you are sure that you understand what you have read, please sign the form at the bottom. The form will remain in your confidential file.

Welcome to CARE. CARE provides support and advocacy services for students impacted by sexual violence, relationship or dating violence, sexual harassment, and stalking, as well as those who have questions about sexuality and/or relationships. CARE's services intend to meet your needs or help connect you with the appropriate resources in a supportive, trauma-informed environment. Friends and supporters of students impacted by sexual violence, relationship or dating violence, sexual harassment or stalking are also welcome to seek our services.

You are entitled to use our services if you are currently enrolled at Northwestern University. Because of limited staff size and resources, CARE is unable to continue services once a person is no longer affiliated with the University. Upon your departure from the University, CARE will supply you with appropriate referrals and will make every effort to assist you with the transition of services. All services available through our office are free. Because everyone's concerns are unique and take different amounts of time to resolve, services are tailored as much as possible to you and your situation's needs. We provide: general information on sexual health, relationships, relationship or dating violence, sexual violence, sexual harassment and stalking; coordination of campus resources; skill building and support services; assistance for student conduct hearing (including acting as an advisor in the Title IX process); and connections and/or introductions to on-and off-campus resources. On the occasions when your concerns are more appropriately met in other settings, we will assist you in finding the right resource for your needs.

At CARE your information will remain confidential as provided under applicable laws. With the exception of the specific circumstances discussed in the next paragraphs or as otherwise required by law, the information you share will not be disclosed to individuals outside of CARE's professional staff without your knowledge or written consent. If providing services requires referral or coordination with other offices or departments, you will be asked to sign a "consent for advocacy services" form that gives CARE staff permission to share your name with appropriate personnel in order to coordinate services. No record of your use of CARE's services is kept in your academic records, conduct records, placement files, insurance records or official transcripts. CARE records are kept in locked storage in our offices.

If you have experienced domestic/dating violence or sexual violence or are seeking services regarding domestic violence or sexual violence, your conversation with a CARE Advocate may be protected by Illinois law under one or more of the following privileges: the domestic violence counselor privilege set forth at 750 ILCS 60/227, the "rape crisis personnel" privilege set forth at 735 ILCS 5/8-802.1, and/or the privilege that applies to "confidential advisors" under the Illinois Preventing Sexual Violence in Higher Education Act that is set forth at 735 ILCS 5/8-804.

There are a few exceptions to the above rules of confidentiality:

- Under certain circumstances, CARE staff may be required by law to reveal your information in connection with a court order or subpoena. When possible, you will be notified before any disclosure is made.
- CARE staff may be required by law to report instances of suspected child and/or elder abuse to appropriate agencies.
- CARE staff may also take action if failure to disclose a confidential communication is likely to result in a clear, imminent risk of serious physical injury or death of the victim or another person.

Please note, CARE is required by law to provide aggregate counts of services provided monthly and annually to the Title IX Coordinator for the University, but this information is provided anonymously and with no identifying information.

I have read and understand the above policy on confidentiality and limits of service at CARE.

Signature

Date