

## Gender Resource and Advocacy Center-Confidentiality Policy

Welcome. We want you to know how confidentiality works within the Gender Resource and Advocacy Center (GRAC). The trained students staffing the GRAC and the Confidential Advocates share confidentiality standards. Volunteers who don't staff the center are not confidential. An explanation of helpful terms is available on the back of this sheet.

**Here's what you need to know about confidentiality and circumstances in which your information could be shared:**

1. Trained students and staff **are NOT designated as "Responsible Employees"**. This means that they don't report any specifics or names regarding sexual assault or gender-based violence to the university (the Title IX team). However, we can help you report if you choose to do so, and this is a great place to discuss your options without pressure.
2. Trained students and staff **report aggregate data to the university and for grant recipient requirements**. This means they keep track of and report data overall, such as where assaults happen and how many happen, without identifying information.
3. Records involving your identifiable information and communication with a Confidential Advocate may be shared **if required by court order or subpoena**, or in defense of claims brought against GRAC or Confidential Advocate. Efforts to obtain your consent to share, even in those circumstances, will be taken.
4. Information is **shared within the GRAC** among trained students and the Confidential Advocates on a "need to know" basis. This is for consultation toward providing the best possible services.
5. **You can choose for a Confidential Advocate to share your information**, usually to other service providers or staff on or off campus, like a counselor, law enforcement, Title IX office, campus safety or a professor, by signing a release of information.
6. The staff and volunteers **are mandatory reporters of child abuse**. What this means is that the student or staff who learned of this abuse would have to call the Department of Human Services and notify them of what was disclosed. This most often comes up for college students if they themselves are under 18 or if they were abused by a family member who still has contact with a younger sibling.
7. **Some staff qualify for advocate privilege** if they have completed adequate training, which applies to how your information may not be shared in a legal context. The Confidential Advocates have advocate privilege.

If you have any questions regarding these limits of confidentiality, please ask. You can ask a SARA or have a private conversation with a Confidential Advocate.

### **Gender Resource and Advocacy Center**

The Loft, Montag Center

Office: 503-370-6728

#### **Sexual Assault**

#### **Response Advocates**

Peer Advocates

SARA Advocacy

Hotline: 503-851-4245

email:

[SARA-resources@willamette.edu](mailto:SARA-resources@willamette.edu)

#### **Confidential Advocates**

Andrea Hugmeyer

Direct: 503-375-5361

email:

[ahugmeyer@willamette.edu](mailto:ahugmeyer@willamette.edu)

Daphne Van Veen

Direct: 503-375-5361

email:

[dvanveenkoch@willamette.edu](mailto:dvanveenkoch@willamette.edu)

### **Helpful Terms**

**Mandatory Reporter:** a person obligated to report abuse of children under the age of 18

**Responsible Employee:** someone obligated, by Title IX and Willamette University, to report sexual assault and gender based violence to the Title IX team

**Trained Student:** a student who has completed a 40 hour training approved by the Oregon Attorney General's Sexual Assault Task Force

**Privilege:** a legal term referencing how information can be accessed by courts

### **Gender Resource and Advocacy Center Mission**

*The Gender Resource and Advocacy Center (GRAC) provides resources and support to persons of any gender and sexual identity in the Willamette University community. We strive to create a safe and affirming space intended to empower those we serve. We promote gender equity, inclusivity, and social justice by supporting systemic change through education and collaboration. The GRAC offers individual and confidential advocacy to those impacted by sexual violence, stalking, relationship violence, and sexual harassment.*