SAPHE's Letter to the Tulane Community

Content Warning: References to Sexual Violence and Assault

SAPHE Hotline Number: 504-654-9543

A Specific Message to Survivors:

To the survivor reading this message: you are valued, we believe you, and you are not alone. No matter how or if you choose to disclose any experiences, we are here for you. Your experience is real and valid, and you deserve to claim your healing on your own terms.

We recognize that there is often conversation surrounding how survivors should approach their personal experiences with sexual violence. While conversations about sexual violence, accountability, and prevention are important, we believe that survivors' well-being must remain the center of these conversations. If and how you choose to engage in these conversations is entirely up to you. You do not need to share your story, engage with resources, or report unless you want to. You are allowed to focus on yourself and your own healing journey and do it all on your own terms. SAPHE is here to support you along the way. Whether you are seeking support for something that happened recently or in the past, or need help processing an experience, SAPHE is here to support you. Our support is available to survivors of all backgrounds and identities. No matter how or if you decide to disclose your experience, you deserve to have access to care, support, and resources that respect your needs.

If you are not already aware, SAPHE is a group of Tulane students who are dedicated to supporting survivors of sexual violence and addressing rape culture at Tulane. The purpose of SAPHE is to provide resources and support to the Tulane community through a peer-run 24/7 hotline, while also working to dismantle rape culture on campus through workshops, events, first-year orientation, and outreach. SAPHE members are trained in inclusive, trauma-informed care and empathetic listening. We are equipped to provide support and resources to any person in the Tulane community.

Historically, conversations about sexual violence have not always reflected the full range of survivors' experiences and we want to address that. Survivors who are Black, LGBTQ+, men, gender-nonconforming, disabled, undocumented or who hold other marginalized identities may face unique barriers to accessing resources, being believed and seeking justice in whatever form they choose. No survivors should feel like their identity determines whether they belong in conversations about sexual violence or whether they deserve support.

Sexual violence can and does happen to anyone regardless of gender, race, sexuality, ability or other aspects of identity. SAPHE is committed to providing resources and support to members of all communities and backgrounds. As advocates, it is up to us to recognize these differences and make space for every survivor. SAPHE's framework centers an intersectional approach, which allows us to understand that people may experience sexual violence and its aftermath differently based on their identities and circumstances. Our goal is to make sure that nobody feels overlooked or excluded from support, and that we are constantly in a place of learning about how we can support our community even better. We strive for our resources to be survivor-centered, culturally informed, and always trauma-informed.

SAPHE advocates receive training on HIPAA privacy requirements and follow established confidentiality protocols to protect the information shared by survivors. SAPHE advocates will not share your personal information except in rare circumstances involving an immediate health or safety emergency.

We are always looking to hold ourselves accountable as an organization. Please do not hesitate to fill out this feedback form for any comments or suggestions on how SAPHE can improve our services for survivors and peers.

Our confidential 24/7 hotline is available at (504) 654-9543. Please do not hesitate to reach out if you need our services in any way; our mission is, and always will be, to support you.

Stay SAPHE,

SAPHE Leadership and General Body