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