



## Steps Through the Process

- ✓ Referral
- ✓ Intake
  - Self, Program, Court, or NAPS referrals
- ✓ Medical Assessment
  - Ensure the nature of all aspects for victim.  
Connecting with counselling services, if necessary.
- ✓ Evaluation
  - Gathering information
- ✓ Healing
  - Prepare healing circle with victim & offender
- ✓ Restorative Justice healing circle
- ✓ Treatment
  - Assist with finding variety of options & make a plan

**For more information  
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## Sexual Assault & Domestic Violence

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## What is Sexual Assault?

The term sexual assault can vary between person to person.

Sexual assault is the act of touching another individual sexually without their consent.

## What is Domestic Violence?

Domestic violence is an act of aggression toward a spouse.

Both of these forms of violence can occur for any individual and is not based on age or gender.

## Who can be Referred?

Both the victim or the offender can be referred to the program or request a circle process. There is no restriction on who can access the program.

## Benefits of Restorative Justice

Restorative Justice is a voluntary process involving the person who has been harmed, the person who has caused the harm and their supporters. It is completed in a healing circle.

Utilizing a healing circle brings all involved together to talk about what happened, who was affected, and what can be done to help repair the harm. For this to be possible, the Offender must be willing to take responsibility.

For sexual assault survivors, restorative justice may offer an alternative to the current system which focuses on punishment and not the repairing. The victim in the process is given a voice and an opportunity to contribute to their own healing journey.

When trauma persists within the community, it continues to grow. It affects everyone involved, which can include the community, and promote fear and helplessness. Most times, the most common way to cope is by ignoring the trauma altogether.

## What can be done to help?

- Take time to learn about the affects of sexual assault & domestic violence.
- Create a safe place for individuals to talk about their experiences. Be supportive, help them access services in their communities.
- Raise awareness in schools, public, and society on the importance of accessing help for these issues.
- Avoid judgment. It can be difficult to watch a survivor struggle with the effects of sexual assault for an extended period of time. Avoid phrases that suggest they're taking too long to recover.
- Know your resources. Become familiar with resources you can recommend, such as the National Sexual Assault Hotline 800.656.HOPE (4673).