

## **Guide for Victims of Sexual Assault**

Sexual violence and assault can happen to anyone, regardless of race, age, or gender.

The emotional and physical toll it can take on the survivor and those around them can vary significantly from person to person.

It is important for you to know that the feelings, reactions, and questions you may be experiencing are similar to those of other people who have been victimized through no fault of their own. Sexual assault is never the fault of the victim. You are not to blame for what another person has done to you.

Coping with any form of sexual violence can be challenging. If you or a loved one has experienced any sexual abuse or assault, there are ways to get the help and support you need.

## **VICTIMS RIGHTS**

Victims and witnesses of crime have fundamental rights in the criminal justice process to ensure that all victims are treated with dignity, respect, courtesy, and sensitivity. Victims also have the right to privacy. Utah legislation and the state Constitution protects and honors victims' rights. You can locate these rights in the [Utah Constitution, Article 28](#) and in the [Utah Criminal Code at 77-37, 77-38 and 77-38a](#).