Seeking medical care

The law provides for enhanced penalties for offenders if the assault is proven to be a hate crime. This also makes requirement of proof for hate crimes more rigorous. Some hate-motivated offenses may not rise to the level of a crime that can be charged in court.

If what you experienced does not meet the definition of a crime in court, you might still feel what you experienced was hate or bias-motivated violence. If you do not want to report it to law enforcement, you can still report it to Colorado Anti-Violence Program that provides support and referrals to LGBTQ survivors of all types of violence.

Reasons to seek medical care:
- You may have sustained physical injuries and may not be aware of these due to shock.
- You deserve to receive professional support and care.
- You can provide evidence in case you choose to open an investigation.
- Your medical records are confidential.
- You have a right to access non-discriminatory services that are available to all survivors of sexual assault in Boulder County.

Possible Responses After an Assault

Your recovery is very much your own. Getting information and support for yourself or a friend/partner/family member may help.

The individual, SOFFA, and/or the community impacted may feel…
- degraded
- shock or disbelief
- fear, anger, sadness, anxiety and/or feelings of confusion and distrust
- numb
- shame or embarrassment
- loss of control
- one's gender identity has been threatened and/or challenged
- increased hyper-vigilance, assessment of safety, and fear of new people or new situations
- internalized negative feelings towards self
- physical changes like headaches, a decrease in energy and/or changes in appetite and sleep

These are only some of the feelings you may experience. You may also NOT experience these. Although there may be similarities in how a person responds to an incident, reactions and the process of recovery can vary.

Was it a Hate Crime?

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Useful Definitions

Trans* - An umbrella term that encompasses a wide range of people whose gender identity or expression may not match the gender they were assigned at birth. wwwforge-forward.org

SOFFA - Significant Others, Friends, Families, and Allies

Cisgender - A person who identifies as the gender/sex they were assigned at birth.

Possible Responses

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Feeling overwhelmed?

- What are my options?
- Where can I talk confidentially?
- Where do I report?
- What if I don’t want to report?

Advocacy Can Help

Advocacy is listening, promoting, and supporting you on your journey. It is centered on you and your individual experiences, circumstances, and needs. Advocates are available to listen to you and to actively support and assist you. Advocacy can mean acting as a guide through the legal or medical systems, serving as a voice in the community, exploring available options, or just general support throughout your process as a survivor. All of the organizations below have advocates that can help trans* people and SOFFAs.

Local Organizations

MESA [Moving to End Sexual Assault] - http://www.movingtoendsexualassault.org/
Safe Shelter - http://www.safeshelterofstvrain.org/

24-Hour Support Numbers

*Colorado Anti-Violence Program hotline (CAVP) 303-852-5094
*CAVP statewide hotline 1-888-557-4441
*CU’s Office of Victim Assistance (OVA) 303-492-8855
*Moving to End Sexual Assault (MESA) 303-443-7300
*Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Non-Violence (SPAN) 303-444-2424
*Safe Shelter of St. Vrain Valley 303-772-4422

Reporting Options

City of Boulder’s Office of Human Rights 303-441-3140
Boulder Police 303-441-3333
Boulder County Sheriff’s Office 303-441-4444
CU Police Department 303-492-6666
Lafayette Police 303-665-5571
Longmont Police 303-651-8555
Louisville Police 303-441-4444

Health Resources

Boulder Valley Women’s Health 303-442-5160
Medical Center for the Rockies (Loveland) SANE program 970-624-1600
Planned Parenthood 303-447-1040
St. Anthony’s North SANE (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner) program 303-426-2121

Identity-Based Resources

CU’s GLBTQ Resource Center 303-492-1377
OASOS Group for LGBTQ youth 303-678-6259
Out Boulder 303-499-5777

Other Community Resources

Boulder County’s District Attorney 303-441-3700
Rocky Mountain Peace and Justice Center 303-444-6981
One Colorado 303-396-6170

*confidential resources

Sexual Violence and Gender Violence Resources

For Trans* People and Allies

Boulder County Trans Survivor’s Task Force is a community-wide partnership dedicated to promoting equitable, inclusive, welcoming care for trans* survivors of sexual trauma.