

# Caring for Young Survivors of Sexual Assault



## Sexual Assault Response Network

A Community Program of **HelpLine**



Supporting.  
Connecting.  
Healing.



## Caring for Young Survivors

Child sexual abuse is physical, visual, or verbal sexual contact with a minor by an adult, teen, or another child. Child sexual abuse is often a gradual process, with the adult deliberately testing a child's boundaries using their familiarity with the child, social status, or power - also called "grooming".

- 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys will be sexually assaulted before age 18
- Children with disabilities are five times more likely to be assaulted
- 1 in 2 transgender children are sexually assaulted
- LGBTQIA+ youth are assaulted at a much greater rate than their straight-identified peers

## Listen. Support. Believe.

Caring for a young survivor after a disclosure of sexual abuse can be challenging. While children are resilient and can heal from this abuse, healing takes time and patience.

- Listen, believe, and accept them. Your support is extremely important
- Be available and open to kids' needs to help re-establish their sense of security, safety, and control
- Allow them to express their range of feelings in a safe way

24/7 hotline and textline

**1.800.684.2324 or  
Text helpline to 898211**



Helping sexual assault survivors  
in Delaware, Morrow, Crawford,  
Wyandot, and Union counties.

Language Services Available