

**Anyone seeking help for sexual abuse, assault, or harassment  
should be transferred to an ACI staff member!**

**If someone tells you they are a survivor of sexual violence  
follow the **Middlesex L.E.A.D.S.** model:**

### **Listen**

- Repeat what they are saying back to them to make sure you understand what they are looking for.
- It may help for them to know:
  - You believe them
  - You do not blame them
  - They are not alone

### **Educate**

- Introduce the Middlesex County Center for Empowerment. Say “ACI works closely with the Center for Empowerment in Edison. The Center provides safe and accessible services to those who experience sexual abuse, assault, or harassment.”
- Explain the Center’s services for sexual violence victims, family members, and friends including the:
  - 24-hour hotline 1-877-665-7273
  - 24-hour in-person support throughout the legal process
  - Individual counseling
  - Support groups

### **Advocate**

- Provide options and support them in making their own decisions.
- Refer them to the Center for Empowerment:
  - 24-hour hotline 1-877-665-7273
  - TTY 732-549- 0669
  - [empowerment@co.middlesex.nj.us](mailto:empowerment@co.middlesex.nj.us)
- Allow them to contact the Center on their own if they wish.
- Let them know they can tell the Center’s staff of their needed accommodations.
- If they request your assistance, find out how you can assist them in the referral process.

### **Demand Safety**

- Show them that their safety is a priority:
  - Respect their decisions
  - Allow them to do what is safest for them
  - Provide confidentiality

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