Dear Campus Community Member;

We would like to inform you of a crime that has recently occurred in the campus area so you have the information you need to take the appropriate precautions. We are issuing this Campus Safety Alert in accordance with the “Timely Warning” provision of the federal Jeanne Clery Disclosure of Campus Security Policy and Crime Statistics Act of 1998.

We are sending this message to heighten your awareness, to enable you to take actions which can help increase your safety, and to aid in the prevention of similar crimes. We are not including certain details in this alert so as to avoid releasing identifying information about the victim.

**REPORTED OFFENSE:**

The Gettysburg College Department of Public Safety has received a report on September 17, 2017, that a student was sexually assaulted within a college recognized residential facility. The College is investigating.

**SUSPECT(S):**

The suspect is believed to be a non-student. They met during a fraternity social event earlier in the evening. Suspect is described as a black male with a thin build between 5’ 4” and 6’1” tall, with short dread locked hair.

**CRIME CLASSIFICATION/DEFINITION:**

For crime reporting purposes, the federal government defines *Rape* as—Penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim. This definition includes any gender of victim or perpetrator. This definition also includes instances in which the victim is incapable of giving consent because of temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity (including due to the influence of drugs or alcohol). Physical resistance is not required on the part of the victim to demonstrate lack of consent.

**REPORTING:**

DPS can be contacted by calling (717)337-6912 or (717)337-6911 for emergency purposes. Additionally, criminal incidents can be reported to the Gettysburg Borough Police by calling 911. Incidents of a non-emergency nature can be reported by completing the on-line
community concern form at: http://www.gettysburg.edu/about/offices/college_life/care/submit-a-concern/ or by calling the DPS crime tips hotline at: (717)337-8477 (TIPS).

Gettysburg College Cares about your Safety and Wellbeing!

Sexual assault is a significant concern at college campuses across the country. Nationwide, it is estimated that 20 percent of women and 6 percent of men experience sexual assault or attempted sexual assault during their time in college. Our cultural stereotype of rape is a random attack by a stranger, but that is actually quite rare.

In a study published by the Department of Justice, 82 percent of the victims were raped by someone they knew, and 18 percent were raped by a stranger.

Coercion and Force

Sexual assault and rape are sometimes accomplished by physical force, but most often this is not the case, especially between people who know each other. Sexual assault is most often accomplished through coercion, manipulation, incapacitation, and active disregard.

Sexual assault and rape can happen to anyone, regardless of age, gender identity, race, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, or other social identity. A romantic partner, a friend, a fellow student, a family member, someone in authority, or a stranger can perpetrate these acts.

FACT: Sex without consent is sexual assault. A person can withdraw their consent at any time. Not responding to sexual advances is not consent. A "no" in any form, must be respected and listened to. Consent is actual words or conduct indicating a freely given agreement to engage in sexual activity. Sexual assault is never the victim's fault.

The Gettysburg College community is a strong one, and we have a collective responsibility to support people who have experienced sexual assault and/or to step in if we are in a position to prevent sexual assault. For more information on sexual violence prevention or Title IX, reporting sexual violence or misconduct and how to support survivors please visit Violence Prevention and Title IX. Additional sexual assault prevention and awareness resources can be found by visiting Sexual Assault Resources and the Sexual Misconduct Resource Site.

Have a Fire Safe Day

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