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## Tritons United: Against Gender-Based Violence Campus Programming

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# Tritons United: Against Gender-Based Violence Campus Programming

Mackenzie A. Chrun BSN student, Kimberly B. Werner PhD, Maggie M. Gross MSW LCSW

## Who and What is Tritons United?

- Tritons United is made up a team of UMSL Faculty, Staff, Administrators and Students in partnership with community organizations: Safe Connections, Crime Victim Center, and St. Louis County Police Department.
- The team is led by members of the coordinated community response team (CCRT) working together to help prevent, educate, and respond to gender-based violence here at UMSL.

**The overall goal of Tritons United is to reduce gender-based violence and promote victim safety by increasing trainings & education on college campus, and to complete campus campaign events promoting victim services, effective responses, and safety protocols following a gender-based event on UMSL campus.**

The CCRT has four subcommittees:

- 1) Law Enforcement
- 2) Student Conduct
- 3) Prevention & Education
- 4) Victim Services



We are a programming grant funded by the Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women.

### Our Contact Information:

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## Why is Campus programming for Gender-based Violence important?

- 1 in 5 women are sexually assaulted in college (Krebs et al., 2016).
- Of these , 90% of survivors knew their attacker and 1/3 of survivors were first-year students.

32% of college students report having physically assaulted a dating partner in the previous 12 months

Students 18-24 years of age at highest risk of stalking victimization (Krebs et al., 2016).

### Groups at heightened risk for sexual assault, domestic or dating violence, and stalking include students of sexual/gender and racial minority groups:

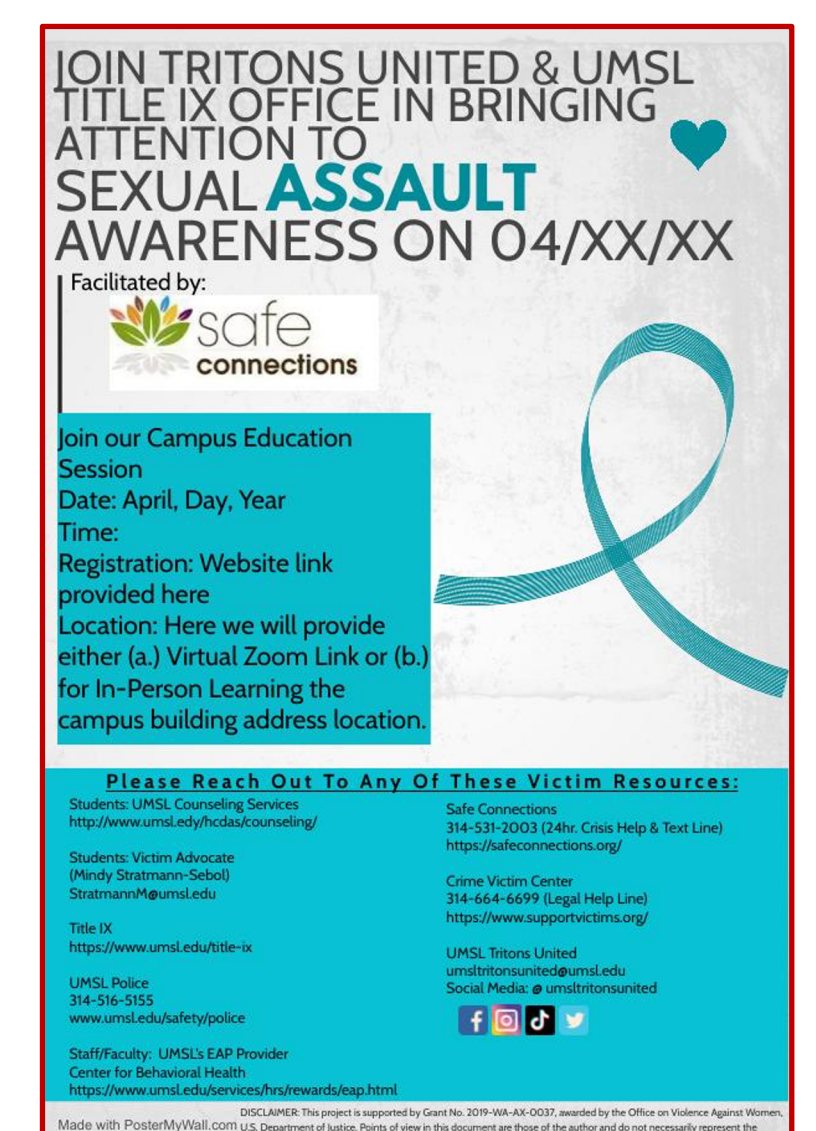
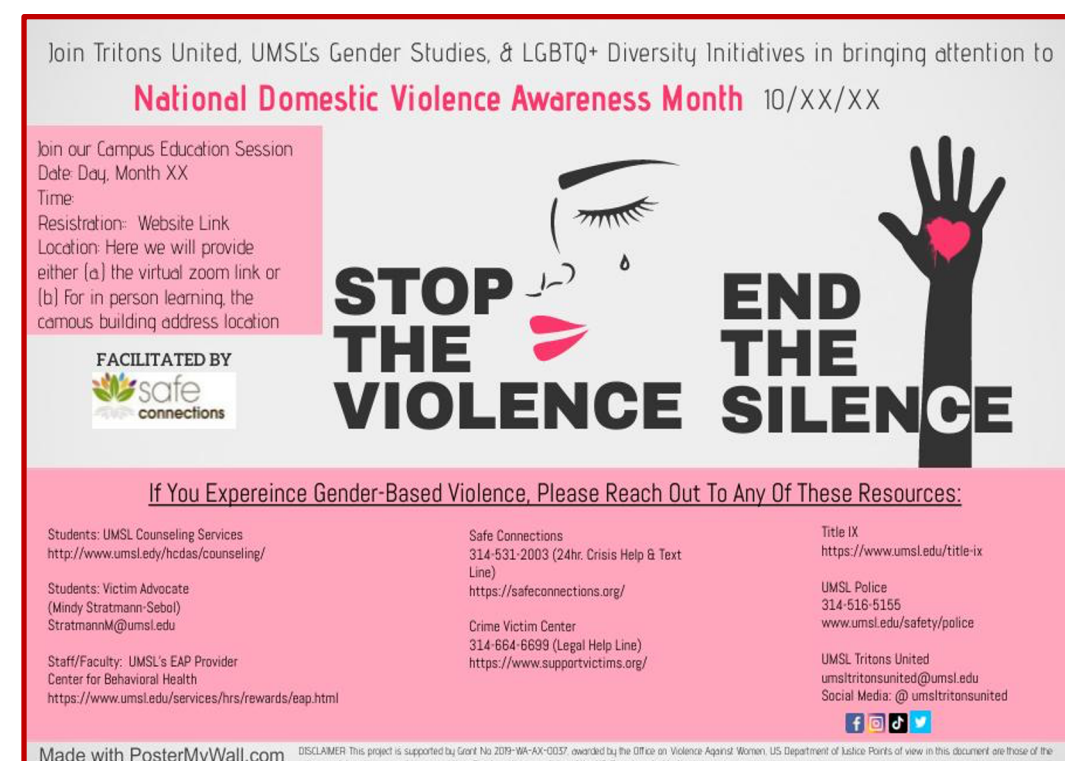
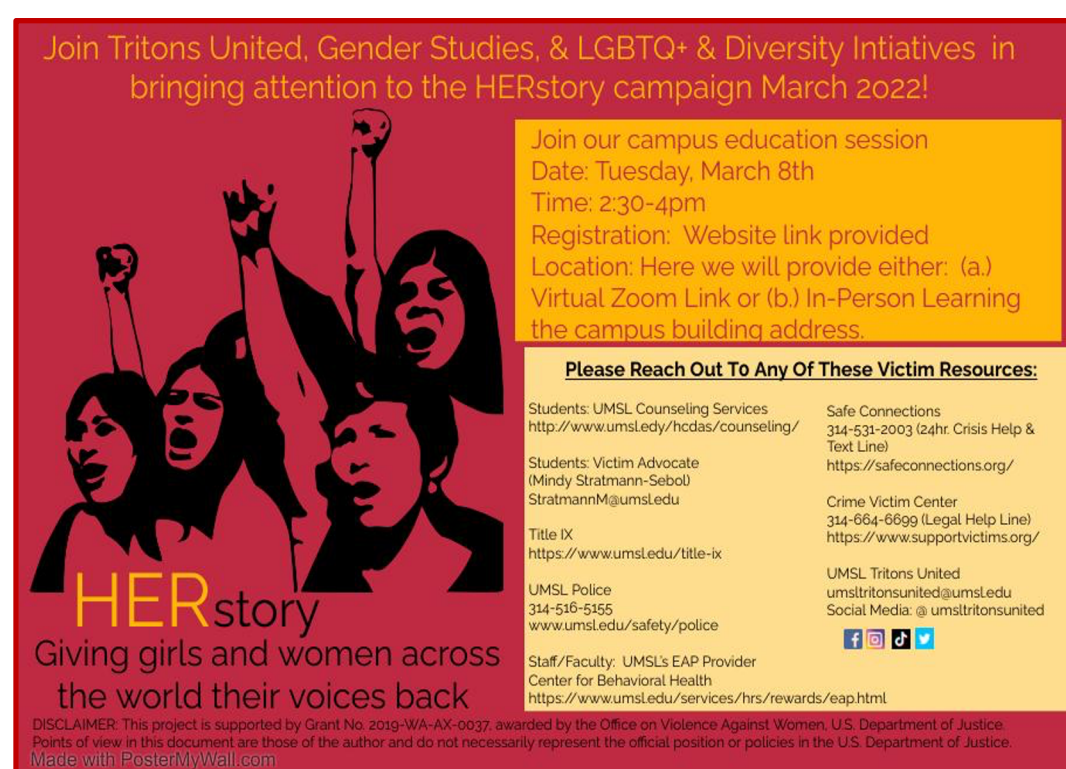
- LGBTQ+ students are at higher risk of being sexually assaulted with 46% of bisexual women and 25% of transgender people experiencing sexual assault (Muehlenhard, Humphreys, Jozkowski, & Peterson, 2016).
- White women report 80% of rapes, but women of color are more likely to be assaulted; one campus study showed that 36% of Black women report rape in their lifetime (Black et al., 2011).

Reporting of sexual violence is stigmatized, and up to 40% of students fear reprisal by their attackers if the incident is reported. As such, it is estimated that only 12% of sexual assaults are reported to police.

**Mission Statement:** Our mission is to harness our collective knowledge and skills to educate, advocate, and connect culturally relevant resources to our UMSL campus and surrounding communities under a unified goal to combat sexual assault, dating and domestic violence, and stalking.

## What We Do (Grant Activities):

- Campus wide trainings- This semester, Tritons United held numerous Bystander Intervention trainings for the UMSL athletic department.
- Gender-Based Violence awareness posters and campaigns across campus/social media.
- Resources for faculty, students, staff, and administrators about GBV and how to respond or access help



## Future Directions/Goals:

- Implementation of campus wide trainings such as the Bystander Intervention trainings that we have been running this semester, Not Anymore trainings, and other ongoing GBV campus education sessions.
- Reduce GBV and promote victim safety at UMSL
- Applying for the Continuation grant to continue programming through 2025

