

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**U.S. Center for SafeSport Launches Victim Services Helpline**

DENVER – The United States Center for SafeSport today announced the launch of a 24-hour victim services helpline, which will be operated in partnership with the Rape, Abuse and Incest National Network (RAINN), the nation’s largest anti-sexual violence organization.

The SafeSport Helpline will provide crisis intervention, referrals and emotional support specifically designed for athletes, staff and other sport participants affected by sexual assault. Through this anonymous and secure service, highly trained specialists will provide live, confidential, one-on-one support by phone or online chat. A mobile application is also available for iOS and Android users.

**Phone:** 866-200-0796

**Online chat:** <https://hotline.rainn.org/safesport>

**Website:** [safesporthehelpline.org](http://safesporthehelpline.org)

“RAINN has operated the National Sexual Assault Hotline for over 20 years, helping more than 2.5 million survivors over the phone and through our online hotline,” said Scott Berkowitz, president and CEO of RAINN. “It’s vital for survivors to have a place to seek help, regardless of where they are in their recovery. The anonymity and confidentiality of SafeSport will provide survivors who may not otherwise seek help with a place to talk and receive the support they need.”

“The Center is excited to partner with RAINN, a respected organization that champions individuals’ well-being and shares the Center’s core values,” said Shellie Pfohl, CEO of the U.S. Center for SafeSport. “The 24-hour helpline is an extension of SafeSport and provides athletes and sport participants with an additional support network that is both safe and confidential.”

In addition to providing victim support services, the Center investigates and resolves allegations of sexual misconduct for the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic movement’s 47 member national governing bodies. To report suspected misconduct within one of these organizations, individuals are encouraged to contact the Center by phone or submit an online report form.

**Phone:** 720-524-5640

**Online:** <https://www.safesport.org/response-resolution/report>

**U.S. Center for SafeSport**

The U.S. Center for SafeSport is an independent nonprofit that advances the benefits of sport by promoting a national culture built on respect. The Center believes athletes of all levels deserve to participate in sports that are free from bullying, hazing, sexual misconduct, or any form of emotional or physical abuse. As the first and only national organization of its kind, SafeSport is a resource for any sports entity, from youth to professional. Headquartered in Denver, the Center provides consultation on prevention techniques and policies and develops best practices and education programs that focus on promoting athlete well-being and putting an end to abuse in sports.

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