Ogun unveils new helplines to combat sexual, gender-based violence

Date: 2025-04-02

Source: https://punchng.com/ogun-unveils-new-helplines-to-combat-sexual-gender-based-violence/

The Ogun State Government has unveiled additional toll-free lines to enhance access to support services for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence.  
  
The Commissioner for Ministry of Women Affairs and Social Development, Adijat Adeleye, in a press statement on Wednesday said that the additional lines were to ensure improved response time and provision of immediate medical, psychosocial, and legal assistance to victims through the Sexual Assault Referral Centres.  
  
Adeleye said, “This intervention again underscores the state government’s strong commitment to safeguarding the rights and dignity of all residents in the face of gender-based and sexual violence  
  
“The expanded toll-free helplines cover multiple locations across the State for easy accessibility. The contact numbers are as follows: Ministry’s Headquarters, Oke-Mosan (08000000 666), Sagamu SARC (08000000 555), Ilaro SARC (08000000 077), Ijebu-Ode SARC (08000000 088), and Abeokuta SARC (08000000 099).  
  
“With the unwavering support of the State Governor, Prince Dapo Abiodun, the SARC centres are equipped with trained professionals who offer confidential and compassionate support, ensuring survivors receive the help they need while pursuing justice against perpetrators.  
  
“Again, the Ministry is reiterating its calls on all residents, civil society organizations, law enforcement agencies, and community stakeholders to actively participate in the fight against sexual violence.  
  
“Reporting cases promptly, supporting survivors, and promoting a culture of zero tolerance toward abuse are critical steps toward eliminating sexual and gender-based violence from our society.  
  
“Also, Survivors are encouraged to speak up and seek help, knowing that they are not alone. Enough of exposing sensitive life issues to social media, where the stigma keeps increasing and spreading even after the issue is being resolved.”  
  
“With these new toll-free lines and with the support of His Excellency, we reaffirm our dedication to creating a safer Ogun State, where every individual, regardless of age or gender, can live without fear.  
  
The commissioner, while calling for further support and cooperation of residents of the state insisted that Governor Abiodun’s administration remains resolute in enforcing strict penalties for offenders while continuously enhancing the support systems for survivors.