

RESOURCE GUIDE FOR CLERGY

In at least one in four families... in any congregation... of any religion or sect... a woman is being abused. More than 25% of teenagers are physically assaulted each year. Men, though batterers more than 95% of the time, are sometimes victims as well.

Domestic abuse is all about power and control: it has nothing to do with love. The victim is terrified into submission. Hopefully some of your congregants will find the courage to come to you. With gentle encouragement you can uncover the true reason for a visit about family discord. If so, we hope this **RESOURCE GUIDE FOR CLERGY** will be helpful. You will also find an attached Addendum denoting local services and programs that are faith-based.

In an emergency, call 911

For information anytime, call the 24-hour crisis hotline at 704-332-2513

COUNSELING AND SUPPORT

Where can an abused woman get domestic abuse counseling?

- Shelter for Battered Women** 704-332-2513
24-hour hotline. Non-residential group and individual counseling. Free.
- Women's Commission** 704-336-3210
Group and individual counseling. Free.
- Programa Confianza** 704-432-6970
Group and individual counseling, Latino. Free.

Where can children get counseling and support?

- HERO (through Women's Commission)** 704-336-3210
For child witnesses of domestic violence ages 5-18. Free.
- Women's Commission** 704-336-3210
Teens 13-18 who have been in a DV relationship. Individual counseling. Free.
- REACH (Women's Commission)** 704-336-3210
For teen witnesses who demonstrate at-risk behaviors. Age 13-17. Free group sessions.
- Shelter for Battered Women** 704-332-2513
Non-residential individual counseling. Free
- Department of Social Services** 704-336-2273
For children who have been abused.

Where can batterers be referred for counseling?

Domestic violence is about battering – not anger management. The batterer must take responsibility for his/her actions before being accepted into a program.

IMPACT 980-721-7268
Court or self-referral batterer intervention: 26 weeks. Men only. Fee based.

NOVA 704-336-4344
Court and provider referred (churches included) batterers intervention: 26 weeks.
Men, women and Spanish-speaking groups. Fee based.

LEGAL SUPPORT

Why, when and how would one get a restraining order?

If the victim has been physically assaulted or threatened with bodily harm, she/he can file for a restraining order. For help contact:

Victim Assistance (through United Family Service) 704-336-4126
Helps with filing papers for an emergency restraining order, accompanies to court for all hearings, advocates on behalf of victims. Free.
General protective orders information 704-336-7666

Legal Aid of North Carolina 704-376-1600
To obtain an attorney for a hearing on a one-year restraining order. Free, if accepted.

Legal Services of Southern Piedmont, Inc. 704-247-1931
Assistance to immigrant victims. Free, if accepted.

Magistrate's Office 801 E. Fourth St., Charlotte, NC 704-347-7844
For weekend and evening emergency protective orders. Open 24 hours a day for criminal matters.

Civil Clerk's Office 832 E. Fourth St., Room 3725, Charlotte, NC 704-686-0520
Paperwork available for filing; no assistance provided.

Private Attorney

For hearing on a one-year restraining order. (See "How do I find an attorney" below.)

How does one find an attorney or get legal information?

Attorneys who are specialists in domestic abuse or at least in family law with some experience in the DV area are suggested. To find one, contact:

Mecklenburg County Bar Lawyer's Referral Service 704-375-0120
Attorney referral as well as 30 minute consultation for \$50

McDowell Center for Family Law 704-331-4774
Sliding Fee Scale.

Women's Law.org www.Womenslaw.org
Provides easy-to-understand legal information and resources to women living with or escaping domestic violence or sexual assault. Search for State specific laws.

How does one get legal advice or proceed on ones own?

Self Serve Center 832 E. Fourth St., Room 3350, Charlotte, NC 704-686-0210
Provides paperwork and instructions for filing civil motions pro se (on your own). No advice given.
Free legal clinics for custody and divorce. Open 8:30AM to 12 Noon, Monday-Friday.

Women's Commission Family Law Clinic 704-336-3210
Twice a month. Call for an appointment. Free.

Shelter for Battered Women Legal Clinic 704-332-2513
Once a month. Call for an appointment. Free.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

How does one take out a warrant to have the abuser arrested?

A police report is required. If you don't already have one, by calling 311. Take the police report to the *Magistrate's Office and ask for a warrant.

Victim Assistance 704-336-4126
Will help follow the case as advocates and will accompany to court if contacted by victim.

District Attorney's Office 704-347-7891
Handles the victim's side of the case. Will be able to answer questions regarding criminal charges and court dates and times.

***Magistrate's Office** 801 E. Fourth St., Charlotte, NC 704-347-7844
Open 24 hours a day for criminal matters.

HOUSING

Where can a woman and her children go in an emergency?

Shelter for Battered Women 704-332-2513
Up to 30 days of free residential care including counseling, case management and transitional services.

MEDICAL

Will an abused woman find help at a hospital?

Yes. Carolina and Presbyterian Healthcare facilities offer forensic services (evidence collection by forensic nurses) and information and referral services.

CMC Domestic Violence Healthcare Project (DVHP) 704-446-3999
Designated advocates/counselors available 24 hours a day to provide safety assessment, planning, and referral information.

Presbyterian Project Safe DV Information Line 704-614-7212

Rape Crisis Hotline 704-375-9900

Domestic Violence Advocacy Council (DVAC) Interfaith Subcommittee
700 North Tryon Street, Charlotte, NC 28202 704-432-1568 <http://dvac.charmeck.org>

PETS/ANIMALS

What if they won't leave because of the pet?

Safe Haven **311 or 911**
Accepts all types of animals for indeterminate period of time in cases of domestic violence. Password protected to ensure safety.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Where should one go for financial help?

Crisis Assistance **704-371-3000**
In emergency situations such as possible eviction or utility turn-off.

Department of Social Services **704-336-3150**

Women's Commission **704-336-3210**
For information on local services.

ADDENDUM

COMMUNITY SERVICES BY FAITH

This partial and very incomplete list will become more comprehensive as you make us aware of services and programs in your faith community and at your place of worship.

Please contact us at 704-432-1568 so that we can publicize all the resources that might be available to your congregants. We will update it accordingly.

JEWISH

Jewish Family Services 704-364-6594
Counseling, emergency support services, information and referral

Shalom Bayit Support Group 704-609-3120 (Carol)
Weekly support group for members and friends of Jewish community. Free

Shalom Bayit-NC 704-756-9209 (Marsha)
Advocacy, information and educational programs. www.shalombayit-nc.org

MUSLIM

Baitul Hemeyah, Inc 704-562-4002 (Sa'idah)
Advocacy, counseling, information and referral.

CHRISTIAN

Beauty For Ashes Ministry, Inc 704-596-0644 (Rev. Marguerite Lee)
Spiritual advocacy, support and counseling. Assistance in the formation of domestic violence ministries and training. www.beaut4ashesmin.org

Peace & Safety In The Christian Home www.peaceandsafety.com
Online resources, blog and training offerings.

The RAVE Project www.theRaveProject.org
Online domestic violence training, sermon helps, connection to all shelters in North America.

