

Response



JUN 2019

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To contact us:

Response, Inc.

P.O. Box 287

Woodstock, VA 22664

Office: (540) 459-5599

Fax: (540) 459-5799

Hotline: (540) 459-5161

E-mail: response@shentel.net

www.facebook.com/response

www.responseva.org

You Have Options



In today's economy, most families rely on two incomes to make ends meet or arrange for one partner to stay home with the children while the other works to offset the growing cost of child care. When a relationship becomes abusive, this financial dynamic can be a barrier to leaving.

Often we hear from clients who have stayed in an abusive relationship much longer than they wanted because they didn't feel they could make it without their partner's income. Here are some local resources available to help anyone who has these same concerns:

Response—we offer temporary emergency shelter, supportive services, advocacy, and case management services to help survivors garner resources and support to safely leave abusive relationships.

Contact: 24-hour hotline—(540) 459-5161/response@shentel.net

Centralized Intake—this organization provides coordinated assessment for households experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness.

Contact: (540) 271-1701

Department of Social Services —The Virginia Department of Social Services develops and administers programs that provide timely and accurate income support benefits and employment services to families and individuals in the Commonwealth. These programs assist citizens as they transition from dependency on public assistance programs to self-sufficiency.

Contact: (540) 459-6226

People's Inc. —this organization offers business and consumer loans, assistance with Section 8 rental funds, credit counseling, and financial assistance for down payment and closing costs on home purchases.

Contact: (540) 459-9096/info@peopleinc.net

Faith Community—many churches in our area have special funds to assist families in the varied needs that arise when leaving an abusive relationship.

Blue Ridge Legal Services —this organization provides free civil legal assistance to low-income residents of the Shenandoah Valley and Roanoke Valley of Virginia.

Contact: Winchester Office—(540) 662-5021/Harrisonburg Office—(540) 433-1830

These are some of the main resources available, but every person's experience is unique. If you are trying to leave an abusive relationship but are unsure of your options, please contact us.

We Have A “Special Ask”



The Department of Criminal Justice Services (DCJS) distributes federal grant funds to domestic violence and sexual assault crisis centers throughout Virginia. This funding is crucial in providing core services to domestic and sexual violence survivors in our state. This year funding was cut for 15 of these crisis centers, including Response. There was no fault or error on the part of the agencies who lost funding.

Grant cuts like this are detrimental to our agency as more than 50% of our funding comes from DCJS and these grants help pay for our core services. These cuts jeopardize our court programs, outreach programs, and the availability of staff to meet all the request for services in our community.

Now, more than ever, we will rely on donations to make sure our clients do not suffer the affects of these cuts. All donations made to Response will be used to assist our clients as they recover from the affects of domestic and sexual violence.

Donations can be made on our website at: www.responseva.org/donations or by mailing a check, payable to Response, to PO BOX 287, Woodstock, VA 22664.

WomensLaw.Org

WomensLaw was founded in February 2000 by a group of lawyers, teachers, advocates and web designers interested in using the power of the Internet to educate survivors of domestic violence about their legal rights and ways to get help. The mission of WomensLaw is to provide easy-to-understand legal information and resources to women living with or escaping domestic violence or sexual assault. By reaching out through the Internet, WomensLaw.org empowers women and girls to lead independent lives, free from abuse. Today, the WomensLaw.org website gets more than 1.2 million unique visitors each year. WomensLaw joined NNEDV in 2010 after many years of partnering on issues related to technology safety and confidentiality.

WomensLaw has two components: WomensLaw.org and the Email Hotline.

WomensLaw.org: The website provides over 7,500 pages of legal information written specifically for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault, especially for those who are going to be representing themselves pro se in court. The information, revised in accordance with annual legislative changes, is state-specific and written in plain language so that people can comprehend it without the help of a lawyer. They also have federal legal information regarding immigration remedies for victims, DV in the military and information on federal gun laws. The website also provides thousands of pages of non-legal information about different forms of domestic abuse, tips for working with lawyers and preparing for court, listings for telephone hotlines, legal and non-legal resources for every state programs, courthouse contact information, and much more. More than half of the website has been translated into Spanish and new information is added and updated daily.

Email Hotline: The WomensLaw Email Hotline is a safe, confidential, accessible service through which victims, friends, family and advocates can request personalized information and anonymous support around issues related to the law and domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and dating violence. Hotline advocates respond to each email, in English or Spanish, tailoring responses to answer each person’s specific needs. The Email Hotline also supports advocates at local programs by answering their questions with timely, reliable and relevant legal information, helping them support the victims with whom they are working.

For more information or to access these resources, please visit WomensLaw.org.

Response 

CELEBRATION OF HOPE

A night full of entertainment, laughter and excitement!

SAT., OCT. 12, 2019

6:30 PM - 10:00 PM

CAVE RIDGE VINEYARD

**FEATURING LIVE MUSIC BY
THE FOUNDRY STREET PROJECT**

Admission: \$55 (must be purchased by Oct. 7)

Tickets include Oktoberfest dinner provided by Rutz's BBQ & Catering, beer and sodas, a voucher for a free glass of wine, and chances to bid on exciting silent auction items.

****Tickets must be purchased in advance****

To Purchase Tickets & For More Information Visit:

www.responseva.org/celebrationofhope or call 540-459-5599

Response is a 501 (c) non profit located in Shenandoah County. Our advocacy services provide prevention and intervention services to those at risk or already affected by intimate partner violence, sexual assault, child abuse and other forms of abuse through support, accompaniment, education and outreach.

Celebration of Hope Registration

Yes, I want to Celebrate Hope with Response.

Enclosed is a check for \$_____ for _____ reservations.

I cannot attend, but enclosed is my donation for \$_____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Make Checks payable to: Response, PO BOX 287, Woodstock, VA 22664

Spring at Response

April was Child Abuse Prevention Month as well as Sexual Assault Awareness month and Response held several awareness events in recognition of these campaigns. Check out what we were up to!

[Pinwheel Gardens](#)

Our staff, board, and volunteers joined with local law enforcement agencies and preschools to “plant” several pinwheel gardens throughout the county. Thanks to all who helped us with this effort to remind our community about the need to ensure a safe environment for our children.

[Matilda](#)

On April 14, Response, with sponsorship by Dellinger Funeral Homes, hosted the movie, Matilda, at the Community Theater for local families to enjoy. Over 80 folks came to the movie! Sabrina Shirkey spoke to the audience about our mission here at Response, as well as the importance of Child Abuse Prevention Month and Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The guests were given a packet of information about our agency services, bullying, childhood sexual abuse, etc., and the children received a bottle of bubbles. We were pleased with this opportunity for outreach while providing an event to foster positive, healthy family interactions.

[“Ribbons 4 Kids” Contest](#)

Congratulations to the winners of our "Ribbons 4 Kids" contest that was held during Child Abuse Prevention Month in April! Preschool winner was 4 yr old Kayla Barenos-Reyes of Woodstock ; elementary winner was Poppy Neff, age 6 from Strasburg; Sterling Mayers, age 11 from New Market took the middle school prize. Each winner received 4 tickets to the Woodstock Community Theater! Great job, kids! And thanks to everyone who participated!

[SAAM](#)

If you had a chance to drive by the Chamber of Commerce office, you might have noticed our display for SAAM. The various outfits of clothing, with the words, “What were you wearing?”, aim to get the message to our community that sexual assault happens in all walks of life, in many different circumstances, and it doesn’t matter what the victim was wearing. All too often the victim-blaming question, “But what was she wearing?”, is asked as a way to hold the survivor accountable for her assault. Our hope is to help eliminate this particular rape culture myth, as well as to point out that survivors of sexual violence can be any gender, age, or socio-economic status. Please speak up when you hear any of these myths that blame the victim rather than the perpetrator.

[Spring Fashion Show](#)

What a lovely afternoon the fashion show was! From the beautiful decorations, to the delicious food, to the fashionable models and clothing...such a fun event, as well as being a successful fundraiser. Thanks to all who helped or attended...it was definitely a wonderful thing to see everyone work together to help create such an outstanding event!



Domestic Violence and the LGBTQ Community

(Edited from a June 6, 2018 blog post from ncadv.org)

Domestic violence is not limited to heterosexual relationships and can affect individuals of all sexual orientations and genders. Within the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender & Questioning (LGBTQ) community, intimate partner violence occurs at a rate equal to or even higher than that of the heterosexual community. LGBTQ individuals may experience unique forms of intimate partner violence as well as distinctive barriers to seeking help due to fear of discrimination or bias.

Types of Domestic Violence Affecting the LGBTQ Community

- 20% of victims have experienced some form of physical violence
- 16% have been victims to threats and intimidation
- 15% have been verbally harassed
- 4% of survivors have experienced sexual violence
- 11% of intimate violence cases reported in the NCADV's 2015 report involved a weapon.

Unique Elements of Abuse in LGBTQ Community

There are several aspects of intimate partner violence which can be unique to the LGBTQ community. "Outing" or threatening to reveal one partner's sexual orientation/gender identity may be used as a tool of abuse in violent relationships and may also be a barrier which reduces the likelihood of help-seeking for the abuse. Prior experiences of physical or psychological trauma, such as bullying and hate crimes, may make LGBTQ victims of domestic violence less likely to see help.

Transgender Intimate Partner Violence

Transgender individuals may suffer from an even greater burden of intimate partner violence than gay or lesbian individuals. Transgender victims of intimate partner violence are more likely to experience threats or intimidation, harassment, and police violence within intimate partner violence. Specific forms of abuse occur within relationships where one partner is transgender, including:

- Using offensive pronouns such as "it" to refer to the transgender partner
- Ridiculing the transgender partner's body and/or appearance
- Telling the transgender partner that he or she is not a real man or woman
- Ridiculing the transgender partner's identity as "bisexual," "trans," "femme," "butch," "gender queer," etc.

Barriers to Seeking Services/Receiving Assistance

Several barriers exist to addressing LGBTQ intimate partner violence. These include:

- Societal beliefs that domestic violence does not occur in LGBTQ relationships
- Potential homophobia from staff of service providers, or from non-LGBTQ domestic violence victims they may come into contact with
- Lack of appropriate training regarding LGBTQ domestic violence for service providers
- A fear that airing the problems among the LGBTQ population will take away from progress toward equality or fuel anti-LGBTQ bias
- Domestic violence shelters are typically female only, and transgender individuals may not be allowed entrance due to their gender/genital/legal status.
- The dangers associated with "outing" oneself and risking rejection from family, friends, and society
- The lack of, or survivors being unaware of, LGBTQ-friendly assistance resources
- Low levels of confidence in the effectiveness of the legal system for LGBTQ people

If you or someone you love is an LGBTQ victim of abuse, call **Response at (540) 459-5161** or the **National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-7233** for someone to talk to.

Warning Signs of Domestic Violence

Domestic violence and abuse stem from a desire to gain and maintain power and control over an intimate partner. Abusive people believe they have the right to control and restrict their partners, and they may enjoy the feeling that exerting power gives them. They often believe that their own feelings and needs should be the priority in their relationships, so they use abusive tactics to dismantle equality and make their partners feel less valuable and deserving of respect in the relationship.

No matter why it happens, abuse is not okay and it's never justified.

Abuse is a learned behavior. Sometimes people see it in their own families. Other times they learn it from friends or popular culture. However, abuse is a choice, and it's not one that anyone has to make. Many people who experience or witness abuse growing up decide not to use those negative and hurtful ways of behaving in their own relationships. While outside forces such as drug or alcohol addiction can sometimes escalate abuse, it's most important to recognize that these issues do not cause abuse.

Domestic violence doesn't look the same in every relationship because every relationship is different. But one thing most abusive relationships have in common is that the abusive partner will try many different tactics to maintain power and control over their partner.

It's not always easy to tell at the beginning of a relationship if it will become abusive. Some of the signs of an abusive relationship include a partner who:

- Tells you that you can never do anything right
- Shows extreme jealousy of your friends and time spent away from him/her
- Keeps you or discourages you from seeing friends or family members
- Insults, demeans or shames you with put-downs
- Controls every penny spent in the household
- Takes your money or refuses to give you money for necessary expenses
- Looks at you or acts in ways that scare you
- Controls who you see, where you go, or what you do
- Prevents you from making your own decisions
- Tells you that you are a bad parent or threatens to harm or take away your children
- Prevents you from working or attending school
- Destroys your property or threatens to hurt or kill your pets
- Intimidates you with guns, knives or other weapons
- Pressures you to have sex when you don't want to or do things sexually you're not comfortable with
- Pressures you to use drugs or alcohol

Experiencing even one or two of these behaviors in a relationship is a red flag that abuse may be present. Remember, each type of abuse is serious, and no one deserves to experience abuse of any kind, for any reason. If you have concerns about what's happening in your relationship, contact us. We're here to listen and support you!

(Source: The National Domestic Violence Helpline)

Thank you for your monetary and in-kind donations from Feb. 16, 2019 to Jun. 10, 2019

Individuals

Guy & Kathleen Ackerson
 Diana Bauserman
 Bill & Judy Beavers
 Susan Beazley
 Susan Blissert
 Peggy Boston
 Pauline Brown
 Judith Brussell
 William & Judith Buechner
 Kate Butterfield
 Kim Cassford
 Catherine & David Christovich
 Frank Cihlar
 Mike & Pam Clem
 A. Coffey
 Carrie Comer
 Marsha Cooper
 Barbara Copp
 Julianne Craig
 Christopher & Celeste Crowder
 William & Sylvia Dalke
 Bobby Dalton
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 Susan Dietz
 Sophie Donlin
 Dorothy Doolan
 Jeannette Dovel
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 Melody Emswiler
 Clare Ellis
 Sarah Eyestone
 Sherri & Jonathan Fainter
 Kenneth & Grace Farmer
 Gerald & Patricia Fisher
 Crystal Fleming
 James & Alice Flynn
 William & Brenda Ford
 Emma Fazzini
 Patricia Fuchs
 Lena Fuller
 Suellen Gardner

Ron & Vicki Gemzmer
 Charlene Good
 Michael & Shannon Hawkins
 Steve & Cecilaine Hecker
 Cecil & Ella Heishman
 Robin Helsley
 Larry & Carol Henry
 Lee Hepner
 Diana Himelright
 Ronald & Melissa Himelright
 June Hockman
 Lori Hoffman
 Sharon Hoover
 Cheryl Hottle
 Linda & Richard Howell
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 Miriam Irvin
 Sharon Isralow
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 David & Leah Jeffers
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 Lola Lane
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 Mary Miller
 Norman & Bette Mitchell
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 Jan Myers
 Margaret Nelson
 Roxanne Nikolaus
 Ardie Parker
 Danelle Pokabla
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 First Baptist Church
 First Church of Columbia Furnace
 Lighthouse Marketplace Ministries
 St. Mark's Lutheran Church
 Strasburg Christian
 Strasburg UMC
 Valley Pike Church of the Brethren
 Wakemans Grove Church of the Brethren
 White Chapel UMC
 Woodstock UMC
 Zion Lutheran

Organizations

Basye/Bryce Mountain Lions Club
 Bryce Ladies Golf Tournament
 FOE New Market
 Auxillary
 Forestville/Quicksburg Ruritan
 Grabill Investments, LLC
 Massanutten Auxiliary #4186
 Network for Good
 Old Dominion 100 Mile Run
 Shenandoah Community Foundation
 Shenandoah County Democratic Caucus
 Strasburg American Legion
 VFW Edinburg
 Woodstock Chiropractic

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Ellen Warren
Laura Zimmerman
In memory of:
*Dr. Margaret Loweth &
Paula Dailey*

Seguridad en el Uso de Redes Sociales



Cada vez es más la información sobre nuestra vida, incluyendo información personal, que termina en línea. Muchos/as de nosotros/as tenemos preocupaciones sobre la seguridad y la privacidad de compartir nuestra información personal en el Internet. Las víctimas de violencia doméstica, agresiones sexuales y acecho, pueden tener aún más riesgos y preocupaciones de seguridad cuando su información personal aparece en el Internet. Sin embargo, no tener ninguna presencia en línea generalmente termina aislando a la persona y es una expectativa irreal. Hay algunas cosas que puede hacer para tratar de controlar quién ve su información.

¿Cuáles son las medidas de seguridad básicas que se deben tomar cuando se usa una red social?

Aquí le proporcionamos algunas ideas de seguridad:

- Para cualquier cuenta que usted abra, utilice una contraseña segura que nadie podría imaginar y manténgala confidencial. Para saber más acerca de esto, visite [Limite la cantidad de información de identidad que utiliza](#), tal como fecha de nacimiento, dirección, nombre completo, etc. (Esto también puede ayudar a evitar el robo de identidad.)
- ¡Tenga cuidado con lo que publica! Evalúe los artículos que publica en su perfil, así como las fotos que tenga en los álbumes en el Internet, o las actualizaciones de estado que indican dónde se encuentra en este momento (como un "check-in" en un restaurante) o a dónde va (como un destino de vacaciones). Este tipo de mensajes pueden revelar mucho acerca de usted: sus intereses, su paradero y sus planes para el futuro, lo que puede terminar en que alguien le encuentre.
- Cierre la sesión de su cuenta presionando el botón de "desconectarse" después de cada sesión en la página de las redes sociales. No sólo cierre el navegador, ya que eso no siempre cerrará el acceso a su cuenta, por lo que luego podría verse por cualquier/a otro/a usuario/a de la computadora.

(Source: www.womenslaw.org)