



Domestic Violence Programs

Offer support, shelter, and education.

Domestic Violence Programs provide a wide array of services to victims of domestic violence. They also work on many levels towards the goal of eliminating domestic violence. Services are available 24 hours a day, and there is no charge to victims. Virginians Against Domestic Violence coordinates a certification process for these programs, and in 2002 there were 45 certified Domestic Violence Programs in Virginia. Call 1.800.838.8238 to find out about the program near you.

Domestic Violence Programs:

- Provide free, confidential, 24-hour hotlines and support for domestic violence victims and their children
- Offer crisis intervention and safety planning
- Provide a safe place where victims can stay with their children and consider their options
- Offer support groups, legal advocacy, individual counseling, accompaniment to the hospital, and other services in addition to shelter
- Help victims make plans to be as safe as possible whether they continue or leave their relationships
- Provide services to children who have witnessed or experienced abuse
- Network with community resources and can make referrals for services such as legal aid, social services, housing, etc.
- Will make referrals to Batterer Intervention Programs for individuals who want help to stop being abusive
- Educate the community about services. Seek to raise public awareness of the problem and promote social change to end domestic violence

