

WHO CAN I TURN TO? PART 2

SCHUYLKILL WOMEN IN CRISIS

**Schuylkill Women in Crisis** is a private non-profit organization dedicated to confronting the problem of domestic violence in our community.

**Schuylkill Women in Crisis** provides the following services:

- **24 hour hotline: 570-622-6220** **800-282-0634**
- Safe emergency shelter available for victims and their children
- Transitional housing
- Supportive crisis counseling for victims and their children
- Assistance in filing protection orders and accompaniment to court proceedings
- Hospital accompaniment
- Information regarding community support services
- Prevention education/community awareness presentations
- Volunteer training

24 HOURS A DAY—7 DAYS A WEEK  
ALL SERVICES ARE FREE, CONFIDENTIAL,  
AND PROVIDED TO ALL VICTIMS REGARDLESS OF SEX

Domestic violence is a pattern of behaviors within a family or intimate relationship exhibited in order to control another person.

Most victims are women, but victims may also be men. Domestic violence occurs in 28% of all marriages.

Abusive behaviors include:

**Physical Assault:** Shoving, pushing, restraining, hitting, kicking

**Sexual Assault:** Rape, forcing sexual acts

**Psychological Assault:** Isolation from family and friends, forced financial dependence, emotional abuse, name calling, threats, intimidation

**Attacks against pets or property:** Stealing or destroying personal belongings, hurting or killing pets, taking money, not allowing the victim to work

How Can I Help?

- Listen to the victim and believe her. Tell her that the abuse is not her fault and is not God's will for her.
- Tell her she is not alone and that help is available.
- Let her know that without intervention, abuse often escalates in frequency and severity over time.
- Seek expert assistance. Refer her to specialized domestic violence counseling programs, not to couples' counseling. Help her find a shelter or other resources to offer her protection. To suggest that she return home places her and her children in danger.
- Hold the abuser accountable. Don't minimize his abusive behavior. Support him in seeking specialized batterers' counseling to help change his behavior.
- If restoration of the relationship is to occur, the above steps must take place first.