UNDERSTANDING DOMESTIC ABUSE

What is Domestic Abuse?

A pattern of intentionally violent or controlling behavior used by a person against a family member or intimate partner to gain and maintain power and control over that person, during and/or after the relationship. Hallmarks of domestic violence include the 3 Ps—Planned, Purposeful, and Progressive. Domestic Abuse is sometimes called Intimate Partner Violence.

**Emotional Abuse**

Emotional abuse includes: controlling your schedule, limiting phone use and/or monitor calls, persistently calling you at work to check up, calling you names, threatening family, friends, and pets, and destroying property.

**Financial Abuse**

Financial abuse is one of the main reasons people stay in abusive relationships. Financial abuse could include: giving you an allowance, not giving you access to a bank account, ruining your credit, and interfering with your ability to work.

Domestic abuse isn’t always physical.

It can come in the form of emotional and financial abuse. Compass Center has support groups, financial education classes, and career counseling to help clients become more self-sufficient.

- Many victims stay in abusive relationships out of fear, shame, and financial dependency. **Compass Center offers emotional and practical support for people looking to find safety and become self-sufficient.**

ABOUT US

Compass Center is the state-designated domestic violence agency for Orange County. In the last 6 years, the number of domestic violence clients we’ve served has nearly doubled. **Last year, we served 1,189 people in need of domestic violence crisis services.** We offer a variety of domestic violence services including:

- a hotline that operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year
- helping people get domestic violence protective orders in court
- in-person counseling
- support groups
- emergency shelter
- transitional housing

**Did you know...**

- 15.5 million children are exposed to domestic violence every year.
- Intimate partner violence accounts for 15% of all violent crime.
- More than half of female homicide victims are killed in connection with intimate partner violence.

**In North Carolina**

- In 2017, NC had 79 domestic abuse related deaths. There were 48 in 2018.
- 20% of these homicide victims were not intimate partners, but friends, other family, or acquaintances to the offender.

**In Orange County**

- Chapel Hill PD responded to over 20 domestic violence related calls per week in 2016 (only 1 of 7 police departments in the county).
- Compass Center served over 1,189 clients experiencing domestic violence in 2017.