

## WHAT IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE?

Domestic violence is a pattern of abuse within a relationship that escalates over time. It consists of abusive and coercive behaviors that one person uses to maintain power and control over their partner.

While there are different forms of abuse, including physical, sexual, emotional, financial and digital, abuse is about one partner controlling the other using abusive tactics.

Domestic violence can happen to anyone regardless of age, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, culture or socioeconomic status.

Abuse can occur during the relationship, while the relationship is ending or after the relationship has ended.

If you or someone you know needs help, our Helpline is available 24/7. We also operate a safe, emergency domestic violence shelter at an undisclosed location that is separate from other Crossroads shelters.

Crossroads Rhode Island is a non-profit, 501(c)3, charitable organization. We rely on the generous support of caring donors and dedicated volunteers to provide 24/7 services to individuals and families in crisis.

For more information about making a donation to support the Domestic Violence Program of Crossroads or to learn about volunteer opportunities, please visit [www.crossroadsri.org/domesticviolence](http://www.crossroadsri.org/domesticviolence) or call **(401) 861-2761**.

Crossroads Rhode Island is an Affiliate Member of the Rhode Island Coalition Against Domestic Violence (RICADV).



## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAM



Mailing Address:

**Domestic Violence Program**  
**Crossroads Rhode Island**

160 Broad Street  
Providence, RI 02906

The mission of Crossroads Rhode Island is to help homeless or at-risk individuals and families secure stable homes.



## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAM OF CROSSROADS



**24-HOUR HELPLINE: (401) 861-2760**

### OUR SERVICES

Through our Domestic Violence Program, we provide integrated services to address the unique needs of domestic violence survivors.

Guided by our core values of safety, respect and effectiveness, we seek to empower individuals and families who have experienced domestic violence to live safe, self-sufficient lives free of violence.

We operate a confidential helpline for individuals in domestic violence situations to call at any time to speak with a trained volunteer or staff who can assist with creating a safety plan, taking action, or just be there to listen. Staffed 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, there will always be someone there to answer your call.

Our emergency shelter provides safety for domestic violence survivors and their children in a confidential location separate from other Crossroads properties.

With a focus on safety and housing, clients of our Domestic Violence Program have access to Crossroads Rhode Island's range of services, including basic needs assistance, education and employment services, child advocacy and intensive case management, while they work to find a secure and stable home.

**24-Hour Helpline: (401) 861-2760**  
**Statewide Hotline: (800) 494-8100**  
**Business Telephone: (401) 861-2761**

**[www.crossroadsri.org](http://www.crossroadsri.org)**

### SUGGESTIONS FOR HELPING

Do you suspect that someone you know is being abused? If so, you can be a critical source of information and support. Here are some basic steps you can take to assist someone who may be experiencing domestic violence:

- Approach them in an understanding, non-blaming way. Tell them that they are not alone.
- Acknowledge that it is scary and difficult to talk about domestic violence. Tell them that they don't deserve to be threatened, hit or beaten. Nothing a person can do or say makes the abuser's violence acceptable.
- Share the information. Show them different resources on domestic violence. Discuss the dynamics of violence and how abuse is based on power and control.
- Ask if they have suffered physical harm. Go with them to the hospital to check for injuries. Help report the assault to the police, if they choose to do so.
- Point them in the direction of professional help, including social services, domestic violence helplines, emergency shelter, counseling services and legal advice.
- Check in with them regularly.