Harmony House

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Ask me

why

iCare[®]

Harmony House

Harmony House Mission

To provide shelter, advocacy and education to survivors of domestic violence and promote the principle that all individuals have the right to a life free of abuse.

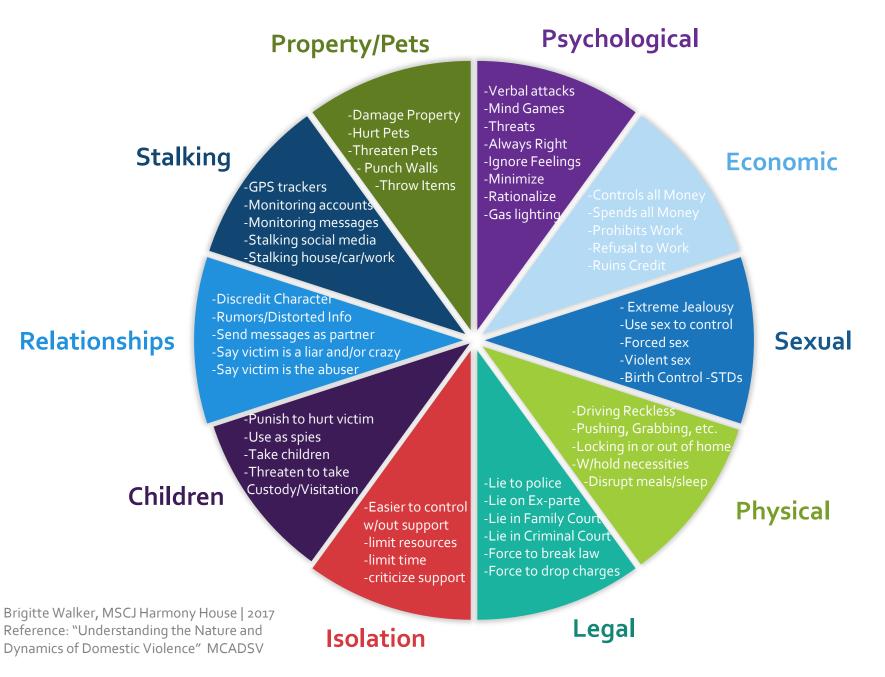
This mission is supported by four agency goals:

- To provide short-term emergency protective shelter for survivors of domestic violence.
- To help survivors of domestic violence break the cycle of abuse through programs of education, support, referral and advocacy.
- To disseminate information to the community that promotes understanding about the factors involved in domestic violence, its prevalence, causes, patterns and prevention.
- To advocate for changes that will provide the opportunity for a lifestyle free of domestic violence for all people.

What we do

- We provide a comprehensive array of services, including:
 - 24 hour hotline (864-SAFE)
 - Emergency shelter & support services
 - Meals, clothing & personal care items
 - Case management (adult & child)
 - On-site counseling (adult & child)
 - Court advocacy
 - Life skills & various support groups
 - Family Advocacy Program
 - Outreach case management (for those who do not require shelter)
 - Education, safety planning, groups, and referrals
 - Court advocacy and Children's Division Advocacy
 - Harmony House employs two advocates at the Greene County Family Justice Center to assist with immediate stabilizing, assistance with protection orders, and assessment for shelter services

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



Prevalence

Source: The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS): 2015 Data Brief – Updated Release. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

- About 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men experienced sexual violence, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner and reported an IPV-related impact during their lifetime.
- Over one-third of women and men (36.4% and 34.2%, respectively) experienced psychological aggression by an intimate partner during their lifetime
- 25.8% of women and 14.6% men who ever experienced sexual violence, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner, first experienced some form of partner violence between 11 and 17 years of age.
- Springfield/Greene County ranks among the top in the state for the highest rates of domestic violence.



The Impact

Source: National Coalition Against Domestic Violence

- Intimate partner violence accounts for 15% of all violent crime
- A study of intimate partner homicides found that 20% of victims were **not** the intimate partners themselves, but family members, friends, neighbors, persons who intervened, law enforcement responders, or bystanders.
- 72% of all murder-suicides involve an intimate partner; 94% of the victims of these murder suicides are female.
- 1 in 15 children are exposed to intimate partner violence each year, and 90% of these children are eyewitnesses to this violence.

• The cost of intimate partner violence exceeds \$8.3 billion per year

The Ripple Effect



HARMONY HOUSE AND 7 BILLION ONES PRESENT







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Start a Conversation

- Display Domestic Violence awareness information at your place of business during the month of October. We provide these to you!
- Host a fundraiser in your business sometime in October that benefits Harmony House.
- Wear the symbolic black eye sticker and lapel sticker on "iCare Day" Friday October 29th and start a conversation!



iCare

Employer Pledge



This company takes the health and wellbeing of our employees seriously, and it is our responsibility to ensure a safe and productive work environment for everyone. This business has taken the iCare pledge to do the following:

- We will do all we can to create a work environment of mutual respect and safety. It will be clear that harassment
 or abuse of any kind will not be tolerated.
- We will raise awareness of domestic abuse among our staff and within the community and strive to educate individuals on the dynamics of abuse.
- We will develop company policies to assist employees who may be experiencing domestic abuse and will review current policies to ensure they are supportive and inclusive.
- · We will facilitate, at a minimum, one DV in the Workplace training each year as appropriate for our business.
- We will educate staff and members of leadership on how to provide support to a co-worker who may disclose abuse.
- Our response to the discloser of abuse will be: To believe and validate disclosures of abuse.
- To educate by distributing information and resources
- To refer the individual to relevant resources
- To support those experiencing domestic abuse through specific workplace policies that address employee leave and performance.

To provide a safe and secure workplace and identify actions employees should take in response to threats of violence at work.

Prevention Education

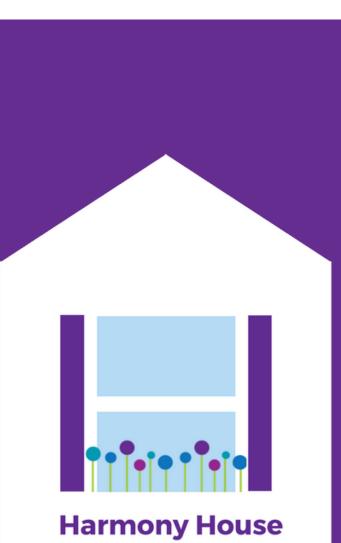
- In 2022 Harmony House brought back the Prevention Education Coordinator position & has started working toward increasing prevention education as communities open back up following the pandemic
- Goal: To disseminate information to the community that promotes understanding about the factors involved in domestic violence, its prevalence, causes, patterns and prevention.
 - In Her Shoes/In Their Shoes (interactive simulation activities)
 - Teen Dating Violence
 - Understanding Domestic Violence
 - DV in the Workplace
 - Healthy Relationships
 - Safe Dates

Outreach Services

- 2023 Harmony House strategic plan includes expansion into Republic Community.
- If funded, grant program will include a new Advocate position that is embedded within the Republic Police Department to provide initial guidance, referrals, and basic services to victims.
- This will be done in partnership with Republic City Council and Republic Police Department

Other ways to support Harmony House

- Participate in our annual iCare event during the month of October
- Donate hygiene items, baby supplies, minor household appliances, over-the-counter medicine, cleaning supplies, and gently loved clothing – Lisa Christy, Donations Coordinator: lisac@myharmonyhouse.org
- Host a Harmony House speaker at your office or social club meeting to raise awareness about domestic violence, Harmony House, and how to support survivors in our community
- Other volunteer opportunities available: kitchen, donations/boutique, meal groups – Ashlyn Klingensmith, Volunteer Coordinator: <u>carolw@myharmonyhouse.org</u>





Thank you!

