

Domestic Violence Statistical Facts

- A woman is badly beaten every 15 seconds by an intimate partner. (Uniform Crime Reports)
- Every day, more than 3 women are murdered by their husbands or boyfriends in this country. (Bureau of Justice Statistics Crime Data Brief, 2003)
- 85-95% of all domestic violence victims are female. (American Institute on Domestic Violence, www.aidv-usa.com)
- There are three times as many animal shelters in the U.S. than there are shelters for battered women. (Senate Judiciary Committee Hearings)
- Over 50% of U.S. marriages have contained some sort of physical violence.
- 1 out of every 4 women is battered at some point in her life.
- 22% of divorces in middle-class families are caused by violence in the home. (www.brokenspirits.com)
- 25% of female murder victims are killed by an intimate partner, as compared to 3% of male murder victims.
- In FY 1995-96 domestic violence centers in Florida responded to 150,000 hotline calls and provided counseling to 68,000 victims.
- The Bureau of National Affairs estimated that businesses lose \$3-5 billion a year from increased health care expenses, absenteeism, and lost productivity caused by domestic violence.
- Each year, Shelter House provides approximately 5,746 days of emergency shelter to about 240 women and children, outreach services to over 250 individuals, and the 24-hour hotline receives approximately 900 calls.

Learn to Recognize the Faces of Domestic Violence:

- Violence that occurs within a family or an intimate relationship is considered domestic violence. This includes child abuse and neglect, partner battering and elder services.
- According to the American Medical Association, family violence results from “the abuse of power and the domination and victimization of a physically less powerful person by a physically more powerful person”.
- Patterns of verbal, psychological and physical abuse often escalate, resulting in personal assault, rape and even murder.
- There are many ways to gauge the health of relationships. Domination and control are warning signs. Freedom, safety, and equality are the domestic ideal.