

OVERVIEW OF SERVICES

These comprehensive services are available to victims of domestic violence and their children in north Pinellas County:

24 HOUR CRISIS LINE

Telephone counseling and/or emergency services for victims of domestic violence and their families.

EMERGENCY SHELTER

Temporary, safe shelter for victims and their children for up to 30 days.

SUPPORT GROUPS

Opportunity to share and learn through others in a safe, confidential setting with a caring professional facilitator.

COUNSELING

Individual counseling for adults and children at the shelter, transitional living and through our outreach office.

ADVOCACY

Assistance with filing for injunctions for protection against domestic violence and support through court procedures.

INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

Information on community resources for victims and their families.

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

Programs to increase community awareness and understanding of the impact of domestic violence; training for law enforcement, health care and other professionals.

CELLULAR PHONE PROJECT

Phones available for eligible stalking victims.

TRANSITIONAL LIVING

Supportive program with housing for up to 18 months for eligible shelter residents and their children.

FOR MORE
INFORMATION CALL:

(727) 442-4128
(24 Hours)

FREE, CONFIDENTIAL
SERVICES ARE
OFFERED
TO ALL VICTIMS OF
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!

Your contribution along with the following funders, allow The Haven to provide services. Your tax deductible contribution may be sent to:

The Haven of RCS
Post Office Box 10594
Clearwater, FL 34617



Juvenile welfare board



ROBERT A. BUTTERWORTH
Attorney General
State of Florida



P. O. Box 10594
Clearwater, FL 33757

(727) 442-4128 (24 Hours)
TDD Accessible

A Project of
Religious Community Services, Inc.

Serving North Pinellas County

Web Page: www.havenrcs.org

DEDICATED TO
THE PREVENTION
OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

DID YOU KNOW....

- Domestic violence is a crime.
- Abuse is an effort to control. It may include the use of threats, intimidation, isolation, denial, financial control and blaming the victim as well as physical, verbal and sexual violence.
- Domestic violence is rarely a single, isolated incident. It is a learned behavior that increases in frequency and severity.
- Domestic battery is the single greatest cause of injury to women, more frequent than auto accidents, muggings and rapes combined. An estimated four to six million women are assaulted by their partners each year. Most assaults are never reported.
- 95% of victims of domestic violence are women. 50-60% of people who batter their partner also abuse their children.
- Domestic violence crosses all boundaries including race, sex, religious affiliation, ethnic group, marital status, education, income or social standing.
- Abusers tend to exhibit "Dr. Jekyll/Mr. Hyde" behaviors, showing extremes in both kindness and cruelty. People outside the family seldom experience this person's explosive rage.

(727)442-4128
(24 Hours)

WHAT CAN YOU DO....

■ IF YOU ARE A VICTIM:

Your safety is the bottom line.

Call 911. Insist on a report.

Seek medical care immediately. Let the doctor know you've been abused.

Arrange to stay with friends, family, rent a room or call The Haven for emergency housing.

Keep detailed records of incidents of abuse.



■ IF YOU KNOW A VICTIM:

Believe the victim. Doubting or minimizing the abuse only heightens the victim's feelings of guilt, fear and helplessness.

Support the victim. Give encouragement, information and referrals to agencies and services.



■ TO BREAK THE CYCLE:

Speak out! Make the problem of abuse heard. Awareness precedes choice, choice precedes change.

Don't accept abusive behaviors from friends, relatives, peers. Hold batterers accountable!

Support tougher domestic violence legislation.



■ TO SUPPORT VICTIM SERVICES:

Send your contribution (money or in-kind) to The Haven.

Volunteer your services in The Haven Programs.

WHO IS THE HAVEN....

Established in 1980 by Religious Community Services, Inc., The Haven of RCS (formerly known as the Spouse Abuse Shelter) is a not-for-profit agency providing safety, support and guidance for victims of domestic violence and their dependent children. Founded on the philosophy that all people are worthy of respect and dignity, The Haven offers a continuum of services to intervene in the destructive cycle of force, fear and violence that adult victims and children experience within the home.

We recognize violence is a learned behavior that without intervention, perpetuates itself. Statistics indicate that children who grow up in homes where abuse occurs often become abusers as adults. Therefore, we are dedicated to focusing our efforts on teaching children non-violent ways to express feelings, problem solve and build self-esteem.

By recognizing the right and ability of each person to make her or his own life choices, we support equality in relationships and help individuals assume power over their own lives. We are committed to educating the community on the issues of domestic violence in the belief that understanding a problem is a necessary prerequisite to effecting significant change.

The Haven provides services without regard to race, gender, religion, age, national origin, citizenship, marital status, sexual orientation, physical ability or political affiliation.

**Services are Free
and Confidential**