

June | 2018



CONTACT THE
FAMILY GUIDANCE
CENTER AT
828-322-1400

#17 Hwy 70 SE
HICKORY, NC 28602
FGCSERVICES.COM



Spotlight On Domestic Violence

*First Step Newsletter
A Program of
The Family Guidance Center*

THE MISSION OF FAMILY GUIDANCE CENTER'S FIRST STEP DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE NEEDED SERVICES TO VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND TO INCREASE THE COMMUNITY'S AWARENESS ABOUT THE PROBLEM.



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AFFECTS EVERYONE

Domestic violence occurs in every county and it happens here in Catawba County. In the past few weeks, in just a span of 9 days, from May 28th to June 5th, there were three significant incidents of domestic violence in our county. Two involved gun shots and one involved a victim being held against her will, severely beaten, and sexually assaulted over a period of three days. These are three incidents that became public, yet, sadly there are hundreds of domestic violence incidents happening behind closed doors.

- ~ Domestic violence contributes to our county's poverty rate. Abusers interfere with a victim's ability to work by not allowing her to work, causes her to lose job by showing up at the workplace, making false reports to the victims supervisor, causes her to miss work, etc.
- ~ It is a leading reason for women and children being homeless.
- ~ Each physical assault victim averages productivity losses of \$476 per victim.
- ~ Domestic violence is a major public health issue. The total medical costs exceed \$44 million annually.
- ~ Productivity losses per homicide average \$610,000.
- ~ Lifetime costs paid by society for assault victims is estimated at \$96 billion.
- ~ Domestic violence homicides are the fourth leading cause of death of injury among females of child bearing age.

Are you being abusive?

- ~ Are you extremely jealous of your partner? Are you possessive, jealous of other people in their lives, or do you want them only to be with you?
- ~ Do you criticize your partner and put him/her down for not being the “perfect” husband/wife?
- ~ Do you have an explosive temper and get easily angry over little things?
- ~ Do you blame your partner for your problems and feelings?
- ~ Have you broken things, thrown things, hit, slapped, shoved, punched, kicked or threatened your partner?
- ~ Do you feel threatened when your partner doesn’t agree to do what you want him/her to do, and feel that you have to force them to do your will?
- ~ Do you control your partner's decisions, behavior, or social life? Do you decide where they can go, who they can be with, what they can wear?
- ~ Are you insecure about yourself? About your relationship? Do you believe that you have to be in control all the time?
- ~ Do you drink heavily and/or use drugs?
- ~ Did you experience violence in your family?

Do you order your partner around? Do you expect him/her to read your mind, and then get mad when they don't?

If you recognize any of the above signs, you are being abusive to your partner. Don't ignore it — the problem will only get worse. It could lead to your being arrested and sent to jail. It will destroy your relationship unless you are willing to take steps to change.

Call the Family Guidance Center at (828)322-1400 for information about our MATE Abuser Treatment Program.



TAKE A STAND
AGAINST
DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE

VALEANT
Pharmaceuticals International, Inc.

Get to know us

You can help to break the cycle of abuse in our community when you are educated and involved in the prevention of domestic abuse, and know the options for survivors to find help. Our First Step Domestic Violence Program is the county's only provider of specialized services for victims. Learn more about us on our website, fgcservices.com, call us for information, and support our work through a financial gift. We all benefit when victims become survivors of domestic violence and can live without fear of abuse.

Domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behaviors used in an intimate relationship to exert power and control over another.

Our Golf Tournament

Thursday June 21st. at Catawba Springs

Registration- 11:30/lunch 12:00

Tee - off- 1:00

Entry Fee- \$75 per person or \$300 for a team

Register online at fgcservices.com



Family Guidance Center

Phone: (828)322-1400

Crisis Line: (828)228-1787

YOU MADE A DIFFERENCE



Thank you to Connie Horton for making the women in our shelter feel really special on Mother's Day. Connie's Bling Team gave gift bags of new paparazzi jewelry to them. This is the second time Connie has done this. She has a real heart for victims of domestic violence and a strong passion to help them. We appreciate Connie and her Bling Team. Give her a call at (828)781-6815 whenever you need some bling!

TWO MEN AND A TRUCK DO IT ALL!

Every year they collect items needed by women in domestic violence shelters and deliver them to the shelter for Mother's Day. In the pictures, below, you can see them unloading all the items at our shelter. We received so many nice things for them. Thank you, TWO MEN and A Truck, for making a huge difference in the lives of victims of domestic violence.



HDR

hickoryrecord.com

Thanks to Max at the Hickory Daily Record for shedding the light on domestic violence in our county. Your articles on the recent DV incidents in our county have increased awareness of this serious problem. Unfortunately, there were two other significant DV incidents around this same time, which weren't reported.

SHOP THE PURPLE RIBBON FOR YOUR NEW SUMMER ATTIRE!

Phone: (828) 322-3423



SPECIAL THANKS to everyone who has brought donations for our shelter. It all makes a difference, thank you.

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