

# NELCWIT'S SERVICES

***All of our services are free and confidential.***

**24 HOUR HOTLINE:** If you or someone you know is dealing with domestic violence or sexual assault, our hotline can offer support, connect you with counselors, safe homes, shelters, and other resources, and provide referrals.

**413-772-0806 or 888-249-0806**  
24 hours/day, 7 days/week

***Call the number above for any of the following:***

**COUNSELORS and ADVOCATES:** Counseling, advocacy, and resources for women who are living with, escaping, or recovering from domestic violence or sexual assault.

**SUPPORT GROUPS:**

Domestic violence support group, ATRIUM group, drum circle, and more.

**RESTRAINING ORDER ASSISTANCE:**

SAFEPLAN advocates at the courts in Greenfield and Orange can assist you with the restraining order process.

**CHILD-SAFE COUNSELORS:**

Our counselors use art and activities to work with children 3-17 who have witnessed or experienced domestic violence. They can also work with non-offending parents.

**ACCESS TO SHELTER:**

Our hotline staff can help you find safety through our network of safe homes and our connections with shelters.

**911 CELL PHONES:**

Come to our office 9-4, Monday-Friday, to pick up a cell phone which is programmed to dial 911. These cell phones do not have service and cannot make or receive other calls.

**INFORMATION AND SUPPORT IN SPANISH:**

Call our Latina advocate, 413.772.0871 x109

If someone you know is experiencing emotional, physical, or sexual abuse, there *is* someone to talk to.

**24-hour HOTLINE:**

**413-772-0806**  
**Franklin County**  
—or—  
**1-888-249-0806 (V/TTY)**  
**Toll Free**

***Free and Confidential***  
***24 hours a day, 7 days a week***

**COME TO OUR OFFICE**  
**at 479 Main Street, Greenfield:**  
**9 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**  
**Monday through Friday**  
**or call the hotline for a FREE,**  
**CONFIDENTIAL appointment.**



NELCWIT is funded by contracts with the Massachusetts Departments of Public Health, Department of Social Services, Executive Office of Public Safety, and Office of Victim Assistance; by the United Way of Franklin County; by the Haymarket People's Fund and other private foundations, and by donations from supporters.



# NELCWIT

## NEW ENGLAND LEARNING CENTER FOR WOMEN IN TRANSITION



# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

**New England Learning Center for  
Women in Transition**

479 Main Street, PO Box 520  
Greenfield MA 01302  
(413) 772-0871

**North Quabbin office:**

131 West Main Street  
Orange MA 01364  
(978) 544-9857

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

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confidential.*

# Is My Partner a Controller?

Perpetrators of domestic violence are seeking power and control in their relationships. Abusers use many behaviors to control their partners and assert their power.

These behaviors include CONTROL through:

- CRITICISM
- MOODINESS, ANGER, and THREATS
- OVERPROTECTION and “CARING”
- DENYING YOUR PERCEPTIONS
- IGNORING YOUR NEEDS and OPINIONS
- DECISION MAKING
- MONEY
- SHIFTING RESPONSIBILITY
- LIMITING CONTACT with OTHER PEOPLE
- PHYSICAL INTIMIDATION
- SEXUAL HUMILIATION
- PHYSICAL and SEXUAL VIOLENCE \*

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:

- cuts across racial and economic lines.
- occurs in both heterosexual & same-sex relationships.
- is NOT the fault of the person being abused.

## **YOU ARE NOT ALONE. HELP IS AVAILABLE.**

### **Come to our office:**

479 Main Street, Greenfield  
9 a.m. & 3:30 p.m. Monday-Friday.

### **Call our hotline ANY TIME:**

413-772-0806 or 888-249-0806.

**ALL NELCWIT'S SERVICES ARE  
FREE & CONFIDENTIAL.**

# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE FACTS

**Domestic violence refers to a *pattern of behavior*.** The two main characteristics of the pattern have to do with fear and with power in the relationship: One partner fears the other, who has more power and control in the relationship.

**Abuse is not restricted to physical violence.** Abuse can be emotional in nature. It can include limiting access to money, belittling or criticizing, and threatening. Extreme bossiness, always needing to be right, overprotection, and neglect of your needs may all be types of abuse.

**Domestic violence is a leading cause of injury to women.** Just in our area, domestic violence attacks have included pushing, shoving, hitting, punching, kicking, choking, strangulation, biting, scalding, rape, and attacks and threats to harm with guns, knives, household objects, and cars.

**No domestic violence victim ever asks or deserves to be beaten.** Abusers use physical violence as a way of gaining control and power over others. The responsibility for violence does not lie in the abused person's behavior.

**No one enjoys being abused. Some may stay in abusive relationships because their abusers threaten to harm them or their children if they try to leave, or threaten to commit suicide.** Others may be dependent on their abusers financially. Those who have been emotionally abused may feel unable to care for themselves and their children outside the relationship. And some people may stay in abusive relationships because they care for their partners, believe their promises to change, and don't want to break up their families.

## It CAN happen here:

- ◆ Every day in this country, at least 3 women are murdered by their husbands or boyfriends.
- ◆ One third of American women report being physically or sexually abused by a husband or boyfriend at some point in their lives.
- ◆ In the first 6 months of 2006, 15 people were victims of domestic violence homicides in Massachusetts.

—Jane Doe Inc., 2006

\*from *When Love Goes Wrong* by Ann Jones and Susan Schechter, Harper Collins. 1992