

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

EMERGENCY.....	911
Fort Wayne Police (Desk Sargent).....	427-1222
Allen County Sheriff.....	449-7661
New Haven Police.....	493-1517
Indiana State Police.....	432-8661
211 First Call for Help.....	211
Free Legal Line (<i>every Tuesday</i> <i>5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.</i>).....	423-2358
Allen County Small Claims (<i>Protective Orders</i>).....	449-7130
YWCA Women's Shelter & Outreach Services.....	447-7233
Second Chances.....	426-3120
Center for Nonviolence.....	456-4122
Vincent House.....	456-4172
Hope Alive.....	420-6100
Fort Wayne Housing Authority.....	449-7800

ON THE WEB

Self Service Legal Center.....	www.accessindiana.org
Address Confidentiality Program.....	www.in.gov
Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence.....	www.violenceresource.org

**Allen County
Prosecuting Attorney's Office
Karen E. Richards
Prosecuting Attorney
602 South Calhoun Street
Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802**

**Criminal Division
(260) 449-7641**

**Child Support Division
(260) 449-7136**

**On the Web
www.acpao.org**

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STOP Violence Against Women
Formula Grant of the Indiana
Criminal Justice Institute Victim
Services Division 03ST073.**

THE VICTIM SERVICES DIVISION OF THE
INDIANA CRIMINAL JUSTICE INSTITUTE
PROVIDES A VARIETY OF PROGRAMS
GEARED TOWARD HELPING VICTIMS AND
THOSE WHO ASSIST THEM. THE DIVISION
ALSO AWARDS GRANTS TO LOCAL
PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE ASSISTANCE
TO VICTIMS.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SAFETY PLAN

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THE OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY

In addition to representing the State of Indiana, our office strives to serve the citizens of Allen County, to protect their rights, to represent victims with compassion for strong and consistent prosecution of violent criminals, and to vigorously prosecute those who prey on crime victims.

Your safety is the most important thing. Included, we have provided you a guide that can help you make a safety plan. **LEAVING YOUR BATTERER IS THE MOST DANGEROUS TIME.** Review your safety plan as often as necessary so you know the safest way to leave.

GETTING READY TO LEAVE

- ◆ KNOW WHERE YOU CAN GET HELP; TELL SOMEONE WHAT IS HAPPENING TO YOU.
- ◆ PLAN WITH YOUR CHILDREN AND IDENTIFY A SAFE PLACE FOR THEM (FOR EXAMPLE, A ROOM IN THE HOME WITH A LOCK OR A NEIGHBOR'S HOME). REASSURE THEM THAT THEIR JOB IS TO STAY SAFE, NOT TO PROTECT YOU.
- ◆ TRY TO SET MONEY ASIDE OR ASK FRIENDS OR FAMILY TO HOLD MONEY FOR YOU.
- ◆ GATHER IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS, MAKE EXTRA KEYS, PACK CLOTHING AND REGULARLY NEEDED MEDICINES, MAKE A LIST OF IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS SUCH AS RELATIVES, DOCTORS, SCHOOLS, ADVOCACY PROGRAMS, ETC.
- ◆ FAMILIARIZE YOURSELF WITH INFORMATION REGARDING PROTECTIVE ORDERS.

LEAVING THE ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIP

- ◆ IDENTIFY YOUR PARTNER'S USE AND LEVEL OF FORCE SO THAT YOU CAN ASSESS DANGER TO YOU BEFORE IT OCCURS.
- ◆ IDENTIFY SAFE AREAS OF THE HOUSE WHICH HAVE A DOOR OR WINDOW WHERE THERE ARE ALWAYS WAYS TO ESCAPE, IF AN ARGUMENT OCCURS, TRY TO MOVE INTO THOSE AREAS.
- ◆ IF POSSIBLE, HAVE A PHONE ACCESSIBLE AT ALL TIMES AND KNOW THE NUMBERS FOR HELP-DO NOT BE AFRAID TO CALL POLICE.
- ◆ DEVISE A "CODE WORD" WITH YOUR CHILDREN OR NEIGHBORS SO YOU CAN COMMUNICATE TO THEM THAT YOU NEED HELP OR TO LEAVE THE HOUSE.

AFTER LEAVING THE ABUSIVE RELATIONSHIP

- ◆ CONTACT LOCAL SHELTERS FOR CONTINUED ADVOCACY ASSISTANCE.
- ◆ YOU MAY OBTAIN AN EX PARTE ORDER OF PROTECTION THROUGH THE ALLEN COUNTY SMALL CLAIMS LOCATED AT 113 WEST BERRY STREET- COURTHOUSE ANNEX BUILDING BETWEEN 8:00 A.M. 11:00 A.M. & 1:00 P.M. TO 3:00 P.M. THERE ARE NO FEE'S ASSOCIATED WITH THIS ACTION.
- ◆ ALERT YOUR EMPLOYER, SCHOOL AUTHORITIES, DAYCARE PROVIDERS, AND NEIGHBORS OF THE SITUATION.
- ◆ CONSIDER RENTING A POST OFFICE BOX OR LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ATTORNEY GENERAL "ADDRESS CONFIDENTIALITY PROGRAM".

PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE

- ✓ KEEP A JOURNAL OF ALL VIOLENT INCIDENTS, EVENTS, THREATS, AND NOTING DATES.
- ✓ ADVANCE YOUR CAREER AND ABILITY TO WORK BY COMPLETING SCHOOL, TAKING COURSES, OR LEARNING A NEW SKILL.
- ✓ CONSIDER OBTAINING A 911 CELL PHONE TO KEEP WITH YOU AT ALL TIMES. YOU MAY FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BY CONTACTING THE LOCAL WOMEN'S SHELTER.
- ✓ IF YOUR ABUSER HAS MOVED OUT, CHANGE THE LOCKS ON YOUR DOORS & WINDOWS AND/OR ADD ADDITIONAL OUTSIDE LIGHTING.
- ✓ CHANGE YOUR PHONE NUMBER, SCREEN YOUR CALLS IF YOU HAVE AN ANSWERING MACHINE OR CALLER ID. CONTACT YOUR LOCAL PHONE COMPANY ABOUT GETTING AN UNPUBLISHED NUMBER.
- ✓ GET LEGAL ADVICE TO EXPLORE CUSTODY, VISITATION, AND DIVORCE PROVISIONS THAT PROTECT YOU AND YOUR CHILDREN.
- ✓ TAKE A SELF DEFENSE COURSE.
- ✓ CHANGE YOUR REGULAR TRAVELING HABITS TO WORK AND/OR SCHOOL.
- ✓ IF YOU TRAVEL TO ANOTHER STATE FOR WORK OR TO GET AWAY FROM YOUR ABUSER, TAKE YOUR PROTECTIVE ORDER WITH YOU; IT IS VALID EVERYWHERE.