



# Crime Victims Resource Center

Serving victims in Mower County since 1977

## October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Domestic violence thrives when we are silent;  
but if we take a stand and work together, we can end domestic violence.

”

In the United States, an average of 20 people experience intimate partner physical violence EVERY MINUTE. . . . This equates to more than 10 million abuse victims annually.

”

1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men have been victims of severe physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime.

”

Over 63,000 victims seek services from domestic violence programs in Minnesota every year, this represents only a fraction of those affected as only one of every five survivors seeks services.

”  
On a typical day, domestic violence hotlines receive approximately 21,000 calls, 15 calls per minute.

”  
In 2017, 24 Minnesotans were murdered in domestic violence incidents.

What not to say to a victim of domestic violence...	Why it is detrimental...
<p>Why don't you just leave? Why did you stay? Why did you go back?</p>	<p>This shifts the burden on violence onto the survivor, not the abuser. It implies that everything could be over if the victim took action, rather than if the perpetrator stopped hurting them. Victims may feel forced to stay due to financial reasons, feeling emotionally/physically trapped in the abuse cycle, threat of homelessness, or lack of a support from family/friends. Check out #WhyIStayed</p>
<p>What did you do to make them so mad?</p>	<p>You are blaming the victim – nothing they do makes them deserve physical or emotional harm.</p>
<p>They just need to stop drinking/using drugs – then the abuse will stop.</p>	<p>Substance abuse and intimate partner violence are two separate issues. Abusers may use alcohol and drugs to justify their violence. Alcohol/drugs don't transform a fundamentally peaceful person into an aggressive one.</p>
<p>Can you just move on?</p>	<p>The consequences of abuse do not end when you leave your abuser. Victims can suffer from residual mental health problems, financial issues, and complications due to shared property.</p>
<p>That seems so unlike them...</p>	<p>This implies that you don't believe the victim. Perpetrators are often well respected or liked in their communities because they are charming and manipulative. Domestic abuse often happens behind closed doors, and abusers threaten victims that no one will believe them or help them if they speak out.</p>
<p>Every couple fights in a relationship.</p>	<p>Domestic abuse is not equitable to an argument about taking out the garbage or responsible financial spending – it's not a two way fight.</p>



## Power and Control: Immigrant Victims

In addition to the many tactics that abusers use to gain power and control over their victims, immigrants have additional strategies used against them. The Power and Control Wheel, developed by the Domestic Abuse Intervention Project in Duluth, MN, illustrates the various tactics abusers use to gain power and control over their victim.



## Additional Methods Used Against Immigrant Women May Include:

### EMOTIONAL ABUSE:

- Lying about her immigration status.
- Calling her racist names.

### ECONOMIC ABUSE:

- Forcing her to work "illegally" when she does not have a work permit.
- Threatening to report her to Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) if she works "under the table."
- Not letting her get training or go to school.
- Forcing her to sign papers in English that she doesn't understand – court papers, IRS forms, and immigration papers.
- Harassing her at the only job she can work at legally in the U.S., so that she loses that job and is forced to work "illegally."

### USING COERCION AND THREATS:

- Threatening to report her to ICE and get her deported.
- Threatening that he will not file immigration papers to legalize her immigration status.
- Threatening to withdraw the petition he filed to legalize her immigration status.

### USING CHILDREN:

- Threatening to remove her children from the United States.
- Threatening to report her children to ICE.
- Telling her he will have her deported and keep the children with him in the U.S.
- Convincing her that if she seeks help from the police or courts the U.S. legal system will give him custody of the children. (In many countries men are given legal control over the children and he convinces her that the same thing will occur here.)

For more information on working with immigrant victims, give us a call.

**LIVE UNITED**



United Way of Mower County

## Working Together to Change Lives...

United Way of Mower County Dollars at  
Work for Crime Victims

Crime Victims Resource Center is a partner agency with United Way, receiving funds to provide direct services to crime victims.

Each year we provide over 400 victims with counseling, safety planning, intervention, support, education, and other services based on their needs. Emergency assistance is provided to meet basic needs such as; transportation, hygiene products, emergency shelter, food, and clothing.

We promote safety, security, growth, and recovery in an effort to improve the health and well-being of our clients and the community.

United Way funds also allow us to provide sexual abuse prevention education to over 500 second graders in Mower County each year. This education empowers children to identify and report sexual abuse to keep them safe.

Thank you to all that contribute and to United Way of Mower County for the support!!

In the first six months of 2018 we have provided 3,396 services to 350 victims.

## Online Volunteer Training



We have recently restructured our training program, which now includes online and in person training. This approach allows volunteers to complete the training when it's convenient for them! This online training covers topics such as the criminal and civil justice systems, victims' rights, confidentiality, crisis intervention, and various crime specific advocacies. The in person training focuses on agency policies and protocols, as well as practice role plays for the types of phone calls a volunteer advocate may receive.

### HOW IT WORKS:

1. Call CVRC and request a volunteer application.
2. Complete the volunteer application.
3. Meet with the volunteer coordinator to interview for the position.
4. Complete the online and in-person training.
5. Start assisting victims of crime in Mower County!



## JOB OPENING: Victim Advocate

Crime Victims Resource Center is looking for an individual to provide awareness, intervention, and support to crime victims as well as recruit and manage volunteers. Bilingual in Spanish is required.

Qualifications include a BA/BS in Social Work, Psychology, Criminal Justice, or related field. Candidates should have knowledge of state and federal statutes regarding victims' rights, domestic abuse, criminal sexual conduct, and other crime areas.

Interested candidates may apply online at [mayoclinichealthsystem.org/careers](http://mayoclinichealthsystem.org/careers)

## Don't have time to volunteer, but still want to contribute?

Crime Victims Resource Center is always actively recruiting volunteers, but if you don't have time and would still like to make a difference, donations and in-kind contributions help to keep this service available to victims free of charge. Please cut out and return the voucher below.

Here is my caring gift of:

\$15       \$25       \$40       Other \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Crime Victims Resource Center and mail with this voucher to: Crime Victims Resource Center, 101 14th Street NW, Austin, Minnesota 55912.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to be recognized in publications       Please do not recognize me in publications

# Looking for a speaker for your service/civic or professional organization?

CVRC offers education/information presentations on the nature and scope of victimization, prevention strategies, and the services we provide.

All services of Crime Victims Resource Center are provided free of charge.



## Crime Victims Resource Center

101 14th Street NW, Austin • 507-437-6680

Any person, regardless of age, gender or life circumstances can be a victim of crime.

The Crime Victims Resource Center (CVRC) is here to serve you and those close to you with support and options. Growth and recovery are encouraged by caring and skilled people in a nonjudgmental setting.

Our job is to work for changes which will enable all citizens to live in a community free of fear and violence through advocacy, actions and education.

The Crime Victims Resource Center will help individuals who have been victims of many different types of crime. Some of the specific crimes we work with are:

- *Accidents involving intoxicated driver*
- *Assault*
- *Burglary*
- *Child Abuse*
- *Domestic Abuse/Assault*
- *Elder Abuse*
- *Harassment*
- *Sexual Abuse/Assault*
- *Stalking*
- *Terroristic Threats*
- *Theft*



Tori Miller, Director



Linnea Garness,  
Victim Advocate

## Victim Support Services

- 24 hour crisis hotline
- Crisis counseling
- Safety planning
- Arranging emergency shelter
- Support groups
- Referrals to other agencies
- Emergency transportation
- Support during hospital examinations
- Support during police reporting
- Assistance with Orders for Protection and Harassment Restraining Orders
- Assistance with understanding the criminal justice system
- Accompaniment to court proceedings for support
- Updates on the progress of court proceedings
- Notification of victims' rights

Crime Victims Resource Center is a free and confidential service funded by The Hormel Foundation, Minnesota Department of Public Safety-Office of Justice Programs, and United Way of Mower County.

Find us Online:  
[crimevictimsresourcecenter.org](http://crimevictimsresourcecenter.org)

Find us on Facebook:  
[facebook.com/CrimeVictimsResourceCenter](https://facebook.com/CrimeVictimsResourceCenter)