Domestic Violence Awareness Month Fact Sheet



What is Domestic Violence?

Domestic violence is defined by the US Department of Justice as: "a pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship that is used by one partner to gain or maintain power and control over another intimate partner."

Domestic violence, however, is more than just physical violence. Domestic violence can also include:

- Emotional abuse
- Sexual violence
- Control and manipulation
- Physical neglect
- Financial abuse

Warning Signs

Domestic violence impacts all communities and affects all people regardless of age, socio-economic status, sexual orientation, gender, race, religion, or nationality.

There are early warning signs of a violent relationship, including:

- Changes in behavior, like escalating anger and hostility
- Increased social isolation
- Direct threats of harm
- Excessive jealousy or possessiveness
- Public humiliation

If you believe you may be in an abusive relationship, consider reaching out to one of the resources on the following page:

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Local Resources

In the New Bedford area, there are several local resources you can access for issues related to domestic violence.

The Women's Center
174 Union St, 4th Floor
New Bedford, MA 02740
thewomenscentersc.com
508.999.3343

The Women's Center
24/7 Hotline
508.999.6636

SafeLink Hotline
877.785.2020

More Information

For more information about domestic violence, please visit:

National Domestic Violence Hotline
www.thehotline.org
800.799.7233
Text BEGIN to 88788

Massachusetts Attorney General's Office
mass.gov/massachusetts-victims-of-violent-crime-compensation
617.727.2200 x2160

If you are in need of assistance in accessing any of these services, our office is here to help. Contact CAEL at 774.400.0897 or info@cael-nb.org