



Memphis Area  
**WOMEN'S COUNCIL**  
 CONVENE COLLABORATE COMMUNICATE = CHANGE

Domestic violence is a persistent and devastating, traumatizing scourge in our community.

In Memphis more than half of all violent crime is domestic violence related. Memphis police investigated 17,761 reports in 2018 and arrested 7,513 for DV-related crimes. Most involve intimate partners - spouses, boyfriends, girlfriends or exes - and is called Intimate Partner Violence (IPV).

It takes place in homes across Memphis and Shelby County every day, in every zip code and neighborhood, and affects workers in every kind of business and industry.

### HOW HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS CAN RESPOND

You can help if you suspect that a patient or someone you know is living in an abusive relationship.

Your support of someone who is being abused can make a critical difference. If she feels supported and encouraged, she may feel stronger and more able to make decisions. If she feels judged or criticized, she could be afraid to tell anyone else about the abuse again.

**AWAY FROM ANY POTENTIAL ABUSER, ASK** your patient if he/she is experiencing domestic violence. A good way to frame the question is to state that your primary concern is his/her health and that domestic violence occurs often enough that you ask patients about it regularly. Ask: Do you feel safe at home?

**INFORM** him/her about referrals/resources. For copies of appropriate materials go to [memphissaysnomore.com](http://memphissaysnomore.com) to print copies of this resource card and other information. Make sure material passed to victims is small enough to be hidden from the potential abuser - use our "DV palm card" on the website.

**DOCUMENT** information and actions taken in the medical record.

**SUGGEST** your patient use steps outlined below to prepare for a safe way to leave.

**REPORT** domestic violence in Tennessee: State law requires any person who has knowledge of or suspects abuse or neglect of a minor child to report to the Department of Children's Services, Division of Child Safety at 1-877-237-0004. Anyone with knowledge of or who suspects abuse of an elderly person or a dependent adult is required to report to Adult Protective Services at 1-888-APS-TENN (1-888-277-8366) or 320-7220. Health care providers are encouraged to report suspected intimate partner violence and resulting injuries online to Department of Health, Office of Health Statistics on a monthly basis solely for tracking prevalence.

**VOLUNTEER, DONATE and SUPPORT** organizations and agencies that help victims of domestic crime. Go to [memphissaysnomore.com](http://memphissaysnomore.com) or phone FSC for opportunities and places to help.

**HEALTH CONSEQUENCES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.** Forms of abuse include emotional, sexual, physical, financial, etc. Physical injuries resulting from domestic violence range from minor injuries to more serious injuries associated with long-term disability such as traumatic brain injury. Intimate partner violence (IPV) has been associated with an increased risk for HIV infection, sexually transmitted infections, and health conditions related to chronic stress such as stomach ulcers, migraines, or chronic pain. IPV has been associated with emotional problems including low self-esteem, depression, suicide and substance abuse. Children who witness domestic violence are more likely to be aggressive with peers and develop emotional problems including depression and anxiety. Childhood domestic violence is associated with later substance use, suicide attempts, homelessness and traumatic victimization.

## Safety Planning

Identify "safe" areas in your house. These are areas with more than one exit and areas that do not contain items which could be used as weapons.

Tell people you trust in the neighborhood or at work what is happening and make a plan with them in case you need help.

If possible, always have an easily accessible phone.

Keep important items (documents, medications) together in a place you can get to quickly if you need to leave.

Talk to your children about safety. Tell them not to get involved in violence between you and your partner. Teach them how to get help and practice your safety plan with them.

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### **Sexual Assault/Rape:**

Shelby County Crime Victims & Rape Crisis Center  
*24/7 help for victims of sexual assault*  
(901) 222-4350  
1060 Madison Avenue 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Non-emergency MPD Sex Crimes:  
(901) 636-3438

For information on your case: MPD Hotline (901) 636-3438 or email  
SAinfo@memphistn.gov

Shelby County Sheriff's Office  
(901) 222-4479 for rape and DV

### **Domestic Violence:**

Circle of Inspiration Outreach Program  
*Semi-monthly Christian support program; victim advocacy*  
(901) 214-4577

Cocaine Alcohol Awareness Program  
*Serves disadvantaged DV victims*  
Hotline (901) 272-2221  
4023 Knight Arnold Road

Community Legal Center  
*Legal assistance*  
(901) 543-3395  
910 Vance Avenue

Family Safety Center of Memphis and Shelby County  
*Comprehensive civil, criminal, health and social services for victims of family violence*  
(901) 222-4400 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday  
1750 Madison Avenue, Suite 600

Kindred Place  
*Comprehensive services for victims, perpetrators and children; lethality assessments, custodial evaluations*  
(901) 276-2200 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
2180 Union Avenue

Memphis Area Women's Council/Employer Alliance Against Violence/Memphis Says NO MORE  
Community advocacy, awareness and education; system coordination, change and support; prevention;  
Employer/workplace outreach "Violence at Home. Victims at Work. Employers Confront Domestic Violence"  
(901) 378-3866  
2574 Sam Cooper Blvd.

Memphis Child Advocacy Center

*Counseling for child victims of sexual and severe physical abuse*  
(901) 525-2377  
1085 Poplar Avenue

Memphis Police Department Domestic Violence Investigative Unit  
Assault investigation  
*Transport to victim services*  
(901) 636-3741  
1750 Madison Avenue

Shelby County Crime Victims & Rape Crisis Center  
*Court assistance, orders of protection, counseling, support groups* (901) 222-3950 8 a.m. – 6 p.m.  
1060 Madison Avenue

Shelby County District Attorney General's DV Unit  
*Prosecution of DV cases; victim advocacy and links to services* (901) 222-1485  
1750 Madison Avenue

Shelby County Sheriff's Office DV Unit  
Investigations (901) 222-5600; Non-emergency/reports (901) 379-7625 1750 Madison Avenue

Tennessee Department of Children's Services  
*Social services, child protection*  
(901) 947-8800 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
1925 S. Third St.

Victims to Victory Incorporated  
*Support groups for victims of homicide; court advocacy*  
(901) 274-6828 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
2181 Union Avenue, Room 306

YWCA of Greater Memphis  
*Shelter for abused women with children; counseling, court advocacy, Immigrant Women's Services*  
24-hour Hotline (901) 725-4277