

I am a **PERSON** who
has a disability.

I have **STRENGTHS**
and weaknesses.

I can make my own
DECISIONS.

I have **GOALS** in my life.

I am **CREDIBLE.**

Abuse is not
a price I have to pay
for care.

West Virginia Licensed Domestic Violence Programs

Beckley Area	304-255-2559	Voice/TTY
	1-888-825-7856	
Charleston Area	1-800-681-8663	Voice/TTY
Elkins Area	1-800-339-1185	Voice/TTY
Fairmont Area	304-367-1100	Voice
	304-367-1101	TTY only
Huntington Area	1-888-538-9838	Voice/TTY
Keyser Area	1-800-698-1240	Voice
	304-788-6556	TTY only
Lewisburg Area	304-645-6334	Voice/TTY
	1-866-645-6334	
Martinsburg Area	304-263-8292	Voice/TTY

National Domestic Violence Hotline
1-800-799-SAFE (Voice)
1-800 787-3224 (TTY)

Morgantown Area	304-292-5100	Voice/TTY
Parkersburg Area	1-800-794-2335	Voice/TTY
Welch Area	304-436-8117	Voice/TTY
	1-800-688-6157	
Weirton	304-797-1489	
Wheeling Area	1-800-698-1247	Voice/TTY
Williamson Area	304-235-6121	Voice/TTY
	1-800-478-2211	

Statewide Domestic Violence Prevention Office
West Virginia Coalition Against Domestic Violence
304-965-3552 (Voice/TTY) • www.wvcadv.org

*Alternative formats (disk, audiotape, large print and Braille)
of this brochure are available through this office.*

Abuse...

is not a price
I have to pay
for care.

1-800-799-SAFE
(1-800-799-7233)



Abuse...

**is not the price you
have to pay for care.**

How people show you that they care for you and how they give care affects your life. Sometimes a person may think that the way to care for you is by controlling you. This type of “care” is unhealthy and harmful when any of the following is happening:

- Putting you down by calling you names, insulting you or making fun of your disability.
- Keeping you from your friends and family and/or convincing your family that you are to blame for family problems.
- Keeping you from information that would help you to live independently, and/or receive employment opportunities.
- Threatening to take your children away or to report you as an unfit parent.
- Making decisions for you and saying that you are not capable of making decisions on your own.
- Denying you access to money or not allowing you to make decisions on how money is managed.
- Threatening and/or telling others you have a behavior problem, are crazy or need to be put in an institution.
- Blaming injuries caused by physical abuse on your disability or caregiving accidents.
- Blaming you for the abuse and saying that no one will believe you because you have a disability.
- Slapping, pushing, choking, pulling hair, holding you down, threatening you with weapons or using weapons to hurt you.
- Reminding you, through words or a look, that harm may come if you do not obey.

*Abuse is not the price you have to pay when someone “cares” for you in these ways.
Tell someone you trust.*

What can I do?

If someone is hurting you, it is not your fault and you are not alone. Talk with someone you trust – a good friend, a caring health care or social worker, a sensitive family member, or an understanding person from your faith community. Talk with someone who will:

- Listen to you.
- Believe you.
- Not blame you.
- Not discriminate against you.
- Keep what you tell them confidential.
- Allow you to make your own decisions.

Domestic violence advocates are often the best people to talk with in order to understand your rights. They are there to help you identify choices and to help you look at the risks and benefits of these choices. They will not pressure you to do something you are not ready or able to do. And they will keep what you tell them confidential. They are there to listen, inform and support you. Only you can decide what is best for you.



Contact information for domestic violence advocates in your area are listed on the back panel of this brochure.