**Personalized Safety Plan**

Safety is the first priority when considering options for victims of domestic violence. Many factors can compromise a victim’s safety. Here are a few safety tips that could insure the safety of yourself and/or your children.

- Extra house and car keys
- Extra money
- Birth certificates, marriage license, social security cards, green card, work permits, auto titles, medical cards, I.D., divorce and custody papers, checking and saving information and other important documents
- A change of clothes, personal items and extra medications, if possible.

**Protection Orders**

**Domestic Violence Protection Order** is a civil order with the temporary order proceedings in Magistrate Court and the final hearing in Family Court. To file for a protection order, you must go to the Magistrate Court.

You can get a Domestic Violence Protection Order against anyone related to you, anyone you live with or used to live with, anyone you are or used to be intimately involved with.

**Personal Safety Order** is civil order filed in magistrate court against someone not related to you, you have not lived with, or been in a relationship with who has sexually assaulted or stalked you.

You can get a Personal Safety Order against anyone NOT related to you, you have NOT lived with, NOR been in a relationship with.

**Where to go for Help**

- National Domestic Hotline 1-800-799-SAFE
- WV Legal Services 1-800-642-8279
- Adult and child abuse 1-800-352-6513

**Magistrate Courts**

- Calhoun County 1-304-354-6651
- Jackson County 1-304-373-2313
- Pleasants County 1-304-684-7882
- Roane County 1-304-927-4750
- Ritchie County 1-304-643-2353
- Tyler County 1-304-758-2136
- Wirt County 1-304-275-3641
- Wood County 1-304-422-4258

**Sheriff Departments**

- Calhoun County 1-304-354-6333
- Jackson County 1-304-373-2290
- Pleasants County 1-304-684-2285
- Roane County 1-304-927-3410
- Ritchie County 1-304-643-2262
- Tyler County 1-304-758-2911
- Wirt County 1-304-275-4222
- Wood County 1-304-424-1834

**Serving These Counties**

- Calhoun 304-354-9254
- Jackson 304-373-0181
- Pleasants 304-684-5612
- Ritchie 304-643-2407
- Roane 304-927-3707
- Tyler 304-758-0869
- Wirt 304-275-8652
- Wood 304-428-2333

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**Types of Domestic Violence**

**Physical Abuse** includes all aggressive behavior done by the offender to the victim’s body such as pushing, hitting, kicking etc.

**Sexual Abuse/Assault** are attacks on the victims’ breast/genitals or forced sexual activity accompanied by either battering or threats of physical battery.

**Verbal/Emotional Abuse** is carried out with psychological weapons rather than physical attack. Threats, constant verbal abuse, and control of the victim’s activities are examples of psychological abuse.

**Destruction of Property and Pets** unlike physical and sexual battering, takes place without attacking the victim’s body. The destruction is not random, it is the breaking of objects or killing of a pet. The victim never knows when these assaults on property will turn into a physical assault.

**WV Law Defined**

**Sexual Abuse** occurs when a person subjects another person to sexual contact without her/his consent, and that lack of consent is due to physical force, threat or intimidation.

**Sexual Assault** is sexual intercourse or sexual intrusion without consent. The difference between abuse and assault is penetration.

**Domestic Violence** is a pattern of coercive behavior which may include physical and sexual violence, threats, insults and economic deprivation which is aimed at gaining and then maintaining power and control over the body, mind, spirit, lifestyle and behavior of a partner.

All services are free and confidential.

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**Family Crisis Intervention Center**

Provides the following types of services

- **24 Hour Hotline**: 800-794-2335 or 304-428-2333
- **Shelter**: A supportive, home-like environment for victims of abuse and their children.
- **Individual Counseling**: Provided on a referral basis.
- **Advocacy**: Speaking and acting for change or justice on behalf of oneself or another person.
- **Case Management**: Providing support and resources to victims of sexual assault, stalking, human trafficking and domestic violence.
- **Sexual Assault Response Advocate**: Provides emotional support and information to the victim/survivor in a hospital setting. Provides case management and follow up services when requested.
- **Kids First Program-A Child Exchange and Monitored Visitation Center**: This center provides parents or guardians, who are going through a divorce or difficult situation, a place to exchange or visit their children in a child-friendly, neutral environment. This program requires a signed court order. Centers are located in Jackson, Ritchie, Roane, and Wood counties.
- **Community Education**: Upon request, we offer awareness to local businesses, schools, colleges, faith based groups, health and community fairs, and professional organizations about services available on the following topics: sexual assault, domestic violence, teen dating violence, stalking and human trafficking.
- **Crisis Intervention**: Supporting victims in a life crisis by helping the victim cope with the stressful event that precipitated it.
- **Information & Referral**: Link individuals with needed services.

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**Understanding Sexual Assault**

**What Is Sexual Violence?**

As defined by the Centers for Disease Control, sexual violence is any sexual act that is perpetrated against someone’s will. Sexual violence encompasses a range of offenses, including a completed nonconsensual sex act (i.e., rape), an attempted nonconsensual sex act, abusive sexual contact (i.e., unwanted touching), and non-contact sexual abuse (e.g., threatened sexual violence, exhibitionism, verbal sexual harassment). All types involve victims who do not consent, or who are unable to consent or refuse to allow the act.

More than 50% of all rape/sexual assault incidents were reported by victims to have occurred within 1 mile of their home or at their home (RAINN).

- 4 in 10 take place at the victim’s home.
- 2 in 10 take place at the home of a friend, neighbor, or relative.
- 1 in 12 take place in a parking garage.

In West Virginia (WV-IBRS, 2009):

- 70% of reported sex offenses occurred at a residence or in a home.
- Nearly 82% of all sexual assaults were committed by someone known to the victim.
- 46.6% of assaults were committed by an acquaintance, 7.4% by an intimate partner, and 27.6% by “other” family (e.g., in-law, sibling).