

CIRCLE OF CHANGE PROGRAM



**Ongoing weekly group
education for people
who have been abusive
and controlling in their
relationships and want
to change.**

WOMEN AND CHILDREN'S
HORIZONS

Advocating for Victims of Domestic and Sexual Violence

2525 63rd Street Kenosha, WI 53143
Admin Office: 262-656-3500
www.wchkenosha.org

24-Hour Help Line:
262-652-9900 • 800-853-3503

Education is designed to:

- Ensure that victims' reality and experiences are always part of the group content.
- Keep participants focused on themselves and their use of violence, rather than on their partners or relationships.
- Help participants practice ways to change their abusive behavior.
- Provide direct communication between the group facilitator and the partners of the participants in domestic abuse education to enhance the safety of the partners.

Objectives:

To assist the participant in understanding that acts of violence are a means of controlling their partner's actions, thoughts, and feelings.

- To increase the participant's understanding of the causes of violence by examining the cultural and social contexts in which violence is used against the partner.
- To increase the participant's willingness to change actions by examining the negative effects of behavior on the relationship, partner, children and self.
- To encourage the participant to become accountable to those hurt through use of violence by helping the participant acknowledge abuse, accept responsibility for its impact on partner and others, and take specific steps to change.
- To provide the participant with practical information on how to change abusive behavior by exploring non-controlling and non-violent ways of relating to partner.
- Help the participant develop new ways to respond to situations in which they were previously violent, abusive and/or controlling.

If you are interested in learning more about the Circle of Change Program, contact the Prevention Services Coordinator at 262-656-3500

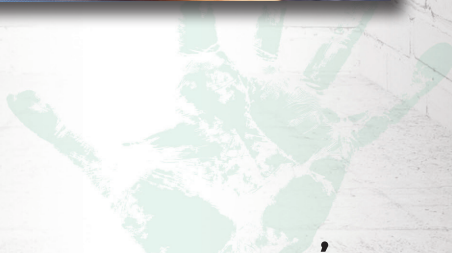
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A large, stylized purple handprint is positioned behind the word 'LGBTQ'.

LGBTQ

INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT

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LGBTQ is an acronym for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer or Questioning. LGB describes sexual orientation while T describes gender. The Q can encompass gender or sexual orientation.

What is Intimate Partner Violence (IPV)?

IPV or domestic violence can happen in any relationship and is about power and control. In LGBTQ relationships the abuser can use sexual orientation and/or gender identity against the survivor.

THE SURVIVOR CAN FACE

- Increased isolation
- Internalized fear about identity, leading to self blame
- Abuse being blamed on gender identity or sexual orientation

WHY IS IT NOT TALKED ABOUT?

- Lack of mainstream visibility of healthy LGBTQ relationships and good role models
- Small communities and support systems increase difficulty in seeking help
- Pressure from the community

What is a healthy relationship?

A HEALTHY LGBTQ RELATIONSHIP SHOULD HAVE:

Respect, trust, support, honesty, accountability, shared responsibility, negotiation, fairness, non-threatening behavior, healthy boundaries, communication, and respect for language, behavior, and expression of gender identity and sexual orientation.

What is sexual assault?

Behavior that violates a person's trust or safety and is sexual in nature. The term "sexual assault" refers to unwanted, forced, or coerced sexual contact or intercourse.

Who can it happen to?

Sexual violence can happen to anyone regardless of sex, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, economic background, culture, religion, or age.

WCH LGBTQ Services

- Free and confidential advocacy services for victims / survivors and their loved ones. All victims can access services regardless of the time the abuse occurred
- Therapy for sexual assault victims/survivors
- Shelter, support groups, and legal advocacy



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UNDERSERVED POPULATION SERVICES



**Providing services for
those over 50, people with
disabilities, and the LGBTQ
community.**

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UNDERSERVED POPULATION SERVICES

Women & Children's Horizons serves all victims by providing domestic violence and sexual assault education, safety planning, identifying options, and an array of other services to help regain independence. Services for 50 and over, people with disabilities and people who identify as LGBTQ are commonly underrepresented in the community. At WCH, advocates who specialize in serving these groups are available. Group meetings are held for victims of domestic violence and for people 50+.

Does someone try to control you or what you do?

Does someone put you down or humiliate you?

ABUSE CAN BE:

EMOTIONAL

- threatening person, children and pets
- name calling
- manipulation

MATERIAL

- financial control
- causing person to leave home
- damage to personal property

PHYSICAL

- hitting
- strangulation
- unwanted sex

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WEST OF THE I (Salem Lakes) ADVOCACY



The court system can be a very confusing and intimidating place. Women and Children's Horizons' legal advocacy program assists victims through the court process, including restraining orders, family court issues such as divorces, legal separations and child custody placement issues, and can provide information or accompaniment to victims of criminal cases.

CONTACT:

Legal Advocacy Program Manager

Criminal Cases 262-653-2782

(District Attorney's office at the Court House)

Family Legal Advocacy/

Restraining Orders 262-586-8118

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Types of Restraining Orders:

Domestic Abuse, Harassment, Child Abuse, Individual At Risk

Definitions under Wisconsin State Statutes: Domestic Abuse —

Domestic abuse is defined in §813.12(1)(am), Wis. Stats., as: an intentional infliction of or threat to inflict physical pain, physical injury or illness; impairment of physical condition; damage to personal property; stalking; or sexual contact or sexual intercourse without consent. There must be facts showing an imminent danger of physical harm before a temporary restraining order can be issued.

Harassment —

Harassment is defined as: (A) Striking, shoving, hitting, kicking or otherwise subjecting the person to physical contact; or (B) Engaging in an act that would constitute child abuse under §48.02(1); or (C) Sexual assault under §940.225; or (D) Stalking under §940.32; or attempts or threat to the same; or (E) Engaging in a course of conduct or repeatedly committing acts which harass or intimidate the person and which serve no legitimate purpose.

Requirements to File for Divorce in Kenosha County —

- Live in Kenosha County for 30 days
- Live in State of Wisconsin for 6 months



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