

To enter a Domestic Violence Shelter,  
please call the  
NYC Domestic Violence Hotline at  
**1-800-621-HOPE (4673)**

**NYC**  
Michael R. Bloomberg  
Mayor

Human Resources  
Administration  
Department of  
Social Services

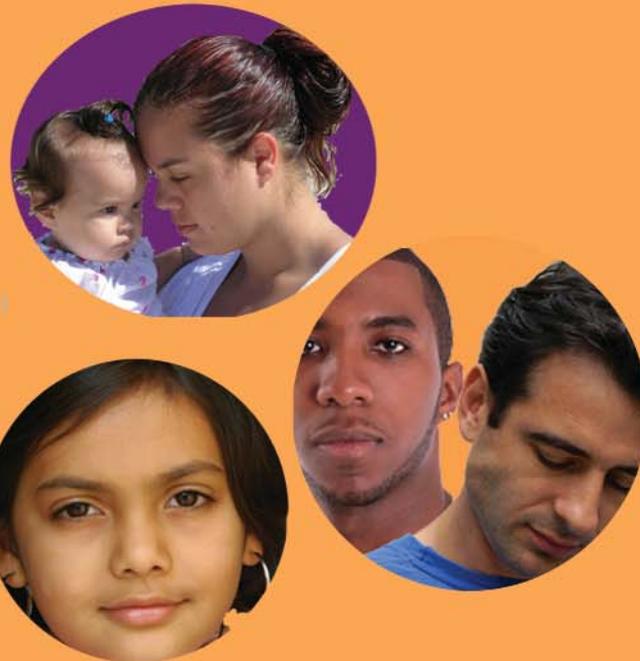
Robert Doar  
Commissioner

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## Domestic Violence Support Services



**NYC** Human Resources  
Administration  
Department of  
Social Services

# HRA Domestic Violence Services

Are you afraid? Uncertain of what will happen if your partner “loses it”? Are you cut off from family and friends? Do you have access to your money? Are you threatened with public humiliation? Physical injury? Constant verbal criticism?

Domestic violence can happen at work. Is a coworker missing time? Afraid to take calls? Borrowing money? Hiding bruises? Getting an unusual number of personal calls? Is a coworker’s job performance deteriorating? Being harassed or stalked at the work site?

### Defining Domestic Violence

- Domestic violence is not just physical abuse. It can be psychological, sexual, emotional or financial.
- Physical abuse includes punching, slapping, hitting, kicking, choking, or biting. It also includes shoving, pushing, or holding a person down, or using or threatening to use weapons.
- Abusive behavior involves power and control. Physical abuse often occurs after a pattern of psychological and emotional abuse is established.

### What you need to know

- Domestic violence is the leading cause of serious injury to women. In New York City, 1 in 3 women killed each year are killed by a spouse or partner.
- Young women ages 16-24 experience the highest rates of relationship violence.
- Domestic violence occurs in all groups, regardless of race/ethnicity, income, age, education, religion, immigration status, or sexual orientation.

### HRA Can Help You

- Shelter services
- Education on healthy relationships
- Counseling
- Legal Assistance
- Linkages to Housing Resources
- Services for Children
- Specialized services including referrals for physical and mental disabilities, teen therapy and substance abuse services.

# Domestic Violence Services

## Domestic Violence Shelter

Emergency domestic violence shelters provide temporary housing and supportive services designed to stabilize families in a safe environment. Shelter staff work with families to manage the crisis and trauma of domestic violence, strengthen coping skills and enhance client self-sufficiency.

HRA's Office of Domestic Violence administers the funding for the New York City domestic violence shelter system, which is comprised of emergency residential programs, as well as transitional housing programs for victims of domestic violence. **For help, call the Domestic Violence Hotline at 800-621-HOPE (4673).**

## Project No Violence Again (NoVA)

Project NoVA addresses the needs of domestic violence victims seeking emergency housing from the Department of Homeless Services (DHS). The staff of licensed social workers provide assessment, placement assistance, crisis information and referrals to domestic violence victims at DHS intake locations and transitional housing facilities. NoVA social workers are also stationed in several DHS transitional housing facilities to provide individual and group counseling, advocacy, referrals and information to the families affected domestic violence.

## Domestic Violence Liaison Unit (DVLU)

This unit provides some protection to victims of domestic violence who may be further endangered if they have to comply with public assistance requirements, such as employment and child support. When a public assistance participant or applicant reveals they are being abused, the Domestic Violence Liaison (social workers in the Job Centers) will assess their safety needs and provide temporary waivers from program requirements for clients whose safety is at risk.

## Anti-Domestic Violence Eligibility Needs Team (ADVENT)

The ADVENT Program is designed to address specific needs of domestic violence victims who reside in domestic violence shelters. ADVENT assists victims in accessing services and resources, and provide work assignments or training that allow clients to comply with public assistance requirements. Barriers to employment are addressed and clients receive credit for counseling group sessions and searching for an apartment.

## Alternative to Shelter Program (ATS)

Alternative to Shelter Program offers domestic violence victims and their children the option of remaining safely in their home and community instead of moving into a domestic violence shelter. ATS is staffed with MSW social workers and a case manager who assess client safety and provide eligible families with a high tech monitoring system. Case managers offer crisis counseling, support services, and information and referrals. The program partners with local NYPD precincts to coordinate rapid safety responses. **For information on ATS, call 212-331-4538.**

## Shelter Literacy Program

This program features domestic violence shelter based libraries designed to promote education, literacy and cultural awareness. Libraries are equipped with books, magazines, encyclopedias, and other materials interesting to both children and adults. Libraries have computers with software programs designed to assist children to improve reading skills, and enable mothers to prepare resumes and search the web to increase employment options.

## Non-Residential Domestic Violence Services

Through HRA contracts, community-based organizations throughout New York City provide telephone hotlines, counseling, information and referral, advocacy, and community outreach. Several programs also offer legal assistance with orders of protection, custody, separation and divorce and immigration issues specifically tailored for DV clients. Additional services include children's counseling, services for individuals with physical and mental disabilities, teen therapy, and substance abuse services.

## Teen Relationship Abuse Prevention Program (Teen RAPP)

RAPP is one of the most extensive domestic violence prevention programs in NYC, and is based in schools throughout the city. RAPP's central mission is to end relationship abuse among young people. Its curriculum helps students to identify destructive patterns of behavior before they become repeating patterns in adult relationships. Since 1999, HRA's innovative RAPP program has helped teens attending public high schools develop healthier relationships. RAPP social workers use many different methods to combat relationship abuse, including: prevention classes, intervention counseling, staff development and training, and community outreach.

The Office of Domestic Violence is part of the Human Resources Administration's Office of Domestic Violence and Emergency Intervention Services (ODVEIS). For more information on Domestic Violence Support Services or other HRA services, visit the HRA website at [www.nyc.gov/hra/dv](http://www.nyc.gov/hra/dv) or call **311**

