



## Basic services provided by programs in each county are as follows:

- 24 Hour emergency crisis line
- Court Accompaniment
- Hospital Accompaniment
- Client Counseling
- Emergency Transportation
- Advocacy
- Off-site Shelter
- Trained Volunteers
- Community Education
- Professional Training
- Domestic Violence Program Advisory Council
- Local Domestic Violence Program Office
- Job counseling specifically designed for DV survivors entering the job market, taking into consideration their previous absence from the job market, their lack of recent paid work experience, and building upon the skills and experience possessed by the client.
- Job training and job placement services to train and place DV survivors for and into available jobs in the public and private sectors.
- Health education and counseling services with respect to general principles of preventive health care, including, but not limited to, family health care, nutrition education, and the selection of physicians and health care services.
- Financial management services with information and assistance on all aspects of financial management, including, but not limited to, insurance, taxes, estate and probate matters, mortgages, and loans.
- Educational services, including information services concerning available secondary and post-secondary education programs beneficial to DV survivors seeking employment, and information services with respect to all employment in the public and private sectors, education, health, public assistance, and unemployment assistance programs.
- Referral, follow-up and advocacy

**All Services are FREE of Charge,  
Voluntary and Confidential**

### Surry County Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

Phone (336) 443-4030 Office

Crisis Line (336) 356-2014

124 West Kapp Street  
Dobson, NC 27017

### Stokes County Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

Phone (336) 593-7011

Crisis Line (336) 593-9323

Stokes Government Center

1012 Main Street  
Danbury, NC 27016

### Yadkin County Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

Phone (336) 849-4070

Crisis Line (336) 679-2072

117 S. Jackson Street  
Yadkinville, NC 27055



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Council for Women & Youth Involvement  
Department of Administration



# Domestic Violence/ Sexual Violence in Same Sex and LGBTQ Relationships



*YVEDDI...your local Community Action Agency*



[www.yveddi.com](http://www.yveddi.com)



Domestic Violence occurs in lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning (LGBTQ) relationships at approximately the same rate as in heterosexual relationships, but LGBTQ victims can face many barriers when in an abusive relationship, including:

- Fear of the abuser
- Lack of support services for LGBTQ victims
- Discrimination and homophobia
- Fear of “betraying” the LGBTQ Community
- Fear of being “outed”
- Outside perception that violence is mutual
- A greater sense of isolation
- Disbelief from family, friends or institutions
- Lack of legal recognition of relationship
- Lack of economic resources

Along with many concerns survivors of relationship violence may experience, survivors from LGBTQ communities face unique barriers and challenges.

### Being Outed

Fear that the abuser and/or self-disclosure of the abuse will “out” them. This is difficult and may be dangerous if people are not supportive of or sensitive to LGBTQ struggles.

### Discriminatory Response

Many people minimize the experiences of LGBTQ survivors or believe myths that they deserve or enjoyed the abuse. No one deserves or likes to be abused and abuse is never the fault of the survivor.

### Self-Doubt

Many survivors experience self-blame and doubt. LGBTQ survivors may also question their gender identity or sexual orientation as a result of the abuse they have experienced.

### Homophobia

There are several tactics of power and control that may be specific to the LGBTQ population such as gestures to reinforce homophobic control, reinforcing internalized homophobia, and saying no one will believe you because of homophobia in society, to name a few.

## Warning signs of an abusive relationship

- **physical abuse:** Hitting, slapping, kicking, using weapons, throwing items, depriving partner of sleep
- **emotional abuse:** Using verbal put-downs, insults, blaming the partner for the abuse, minimizing the abuse
- **sexual abuse:** Forcing or coercing partner into sex acts, refusing to practice safer sex, seeking to control partner by withholding sex
- **intimidation and threats:** Making the partner afraid by using looks, actions or gestures, making threats, destroying property, harming pets
- **isolation:** Restricting freedom, controlling activities, limiting connection to LGBT community, using jealousy to justify actions
- **homophobia, biphobia and transphobia:** Using discrimination against LGBT people to convince partner not to seek help, questioning identity such as being a “real” lesbian, threatening to “out” partner, using offensive pronouns like “it” or ridiculing the body of a transgender partner, claiming that all same-sex relationships are violent
- **hiv-related abuse:** Threatening to reveal HIV status, withholding medication, using HIV to justify abuse
- **economic abuse:** Preventing the partner from getting or keeping a job, controlling finances
- **using children:** Degrading parenting ability, threatening to take the children, adoptive parent using legal rights to take children from non-adoptive parent
- **entitlement:** Treating partner as less of a person, using race, ethnicity, education, wealth, religion, physical ability or adoption rights to control partner

## The Truth About Rape and Sexual Assault

Rape is ALWAYS against the law!! It does NOT matter if the attacker is a partner, family member, a friend or a stranger; if it is unwanted it is against the law.

Rape and sexual assault are violent acts to over power, or humiliate the victim.

No one ever asks to be sexually assaulted. It does not matter what their sexual orientation is, how they dress, how they act, or what they look like.

Sexual assault and rape are NEVER your fault.

You should ALWAYS report sexual assault or rape.

Rape is not motivated by sexual desire and does NOT happen because somehow the victim “asked for it”.

Sexual violence can happen anywhere; some situations may be more high-risk than others, such as hitchhiking or walking alone at night.

More often than not, attacks happen near or in the victim’s home.

## LGBTQ Intimate Partner Violence...

Is any behavior used to control another person through fear, humiliation, physical violence, sexual violence, and/or verbal and emotional abuse.

Speak up.  
Speak out.

