

## What Help is Available?

WE HAVE TRAINED  
ADVOCATES STANDING  
BY TO HELP YOU

**1-800-833-1161**

### OUR ADVOCATES CAN PROVIDE:

- ◆ One on One Support
- ◆ Information and Referral
- ◆ Safety Planning
- ◆ Advocacy with Other Agencies
- ◆ Group Support
- ◆ Education and Information for Friends and Family

**DVS Advocates  
are eager to help you  
with your safety needs!**

**THERE IS HOPE!**

***Safe parents can help children  
become resilient and successful!***

We serve all persons without regard to race, color, national origin, ethnic background, religion, gender, sexual orientation, age, socio-economic status or physical or mental abilities.

## Advocacy Center Locations

### Pendleton

Administrative Office  
1103 SE Court Place  
Mon-Fri ~ 8am-5pm

### Milton-Freewater

722 S Main St  
(City Hall Basement)  
Call for appointment

### Ione

365 W 3rd St  
Call for appointment

**541 - 276 - 3322**

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### Hermiston

1050 W Elm Ave, Suite 250  
Mon-Fri ~ 8am-5pm

### Boardman

200 City Center Circle  
Call for appointment

**541 - 567 - 0424**

[www.dvs-or.org](http://www.dvs-or.org)



### The Organization

**Domestic Violence Services, Inc. (DVS)** is a non-profit agency that provides Emergency Services to victims of Domestic and Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, & Stalking and works toward ending this violence in the communities we serve. The service area is all of **Umatilla** and **Morrow** Counties.

# CHILDREN AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

## Domestic Violence Services, Inc.

*Serving Umatilla & Morrow  
Counties Since 1977*



***Safety, Help, & Hope***

**24 - HOUR CRISIS LINE  
1 - 800 - 833 - 1161**

## Emotional Impact On Children

When abusers make the choice to be violent, they are choosing to negatively impact all members of the family, including their children.

RESPONSES TO VIOLENCE CAN VARY

Some common emotional responses may include feelings of:

- *Guilt*
- *Anger*
- *Sadness*
- *Loneliness*
- *Hopelessness*
- *Fear*
- *Worthlessness*
- *Resentment*

**SAFE PARENTS ARE THE  
BEST ADVOCATES FOR  
THEIR CHILDREN!**

The best way to help children that experience emotional responses to domestic violence is to validate their feelings, offer support, and show them care and compassion.

***Be ready to find resources if your child continues to have serious emotional concerns***

## Impact on Child Behavior

Children that have experienced domestic violence in their homes may begin to act out in new and concerning ways

**PATIENCE MAY BE  
DIFFICULT, BUT IT CAN  
PAY OFF!**

It is not uncommon for children to exhibit some of the following behaviors:

- *Aggression*
- *Withdrawal*
- *Isolation*
- *Defiance*
- *Trouble in school*

**CHILDREN WHO HAVE WITNESSED  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DO NOT  
RESPOND WELL TO OR BENEFIT  
FROM PHYSICAL DISCIPLINE.**

***Contact us about positive parenting programs with alternative tips and strategies***

## Talking About the Violence

It can be difficult, but talking about the abuse can be a helpful tool once the family is safe.

Many times children have a lot of feelings, thoughts, and confusion about the violence, but don't always feel they can talk about what happened.

*Invite Sharing* - make a point to ask your child how they feel about what happened or if they want to talk about something.

*Let Them Lead* - allow your child to lead the conversation with their needs and validate their concerns.

*Be Honest* - you don't have to tell them all the details, but be honest. Consider their age when you share details with them.

## Research Shows That:

Most children living in homes where domestic violence is present are aware of the abuse. Despite the best effort of the survivor, the abusive parent's actions impact the children in the home.

***Children impacted by domestic violence learn to see the world differently than their peers***