



Alcohol & Chemical
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Vocational Services



8. Domestic Violence

The potential for domestic violence in the family of an individual with TBI is real and it can happen to your family. One reason for this is the intense frustration of having one's personality changed by the TBI and not understanding how or why these changes are happening. A second is the fact that the person with TBI is no longer the same as s/he was before the accident. Family, including parents, spouses, children, and other relatives, are facing a different person. Parents discover that their child, as they perceived him/her, has changed; spouses find that their lovers appear to be gone and someone else is in their place; and others in the family are often confused that, even though their injured relative looks the same to them, those closer to him/her in the family are grieving a terrible loss. Thirdly, the TBI can alter the family structure. If the person with TBI was the breadwinner or the main emotional supporter in the family, the TBI can change these family roles and thus change the family. The differences the family sees in the person with the TBI make for a different family structure and organization. The fourth reason involves the more common personality alterations that can happen after a brain injury. Emotional lability (mood swings) can involve frustration that erupts into family violence.

Of course, it sometimes happens that the person with TBI bears the brunt of the domestic violence. Sometimes a spouse may not be able to emotionally accept the changes brought on by TBI, may feel the person could 'do better' if only s/he wasn't 'so stubborn', and can strike out at the person with TBI. It's also quite possible that there were domestic violence issues before the injury.

If you suspect domestic violence, ask about it. All you need is a reasonable suspicion of domestic violence or neglect to act. Call one of the agencies and ask for their input on the situation. Refer the family, or the client, or both, to counseling and/or to the agencies in this chapter. Remember that domestic violence often becomes part of the structure of the family and thus is highly resistant to change. Family members may downplay, rationalize, or even lie about it to 'protect the family' (which of course it never really does).

To help with these problems, we have included a list of facilities and organizations that deal with domestic violence. Most include some counseling for the victim or the perpetrator of the violence, some include housing for the victim and/or the children (usually the address and phone number of these 'safe houses' are private to protect the victim), and some include a 24 hour phone line for the battered to call for help.

Adult Protective Services

408/928-3860

- Investigates incidents of elder and dependent adult abuse or neglect.
- Short-term management of abuse victims to ensure safety and reduce risk. They are able to provide support services (food, shelter).

8. Domestic Violence

Asian-Americans For Community Involvement (AACI)

408/975-2730

2400 Moorpark Avenue, Suite 300

San Jose, CA 95128

Website: <www.aaci.org>

- Asian Women's Home shelter for abused women and children.
- Domestic violence prevention and treatment.

Battered Women's Hot Line For Lesbians, Bisexuals And Straight Women

24 hour phonenumber: 415/864-4722

Child Protective Services

408/299-2071

- Prevention, intervention, advocacy, and public education related to the protection of children.

Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse

800/300-1080 (local toll free)

24 hour line: 650/312-8515

800/799-SAFE (7233) - National Domestic Violence Hotline

Teen hotline: 650/259-8136

Website: <www.corasupport.org>

- San Mateo county.
- Legal advising and counseling (long term and short term).
- Support groups.
- Shelter facility.
- English, Spanish, Tagalog.

Community Solutions

408/842-7138

Crisis line: 408/683-4118 (24 hr)

6980 Chestnut St

Gilroy, CA 95037

- Shelter for battered women and their children.
- Domestic violence counseling and support groups.
- Legal advocacy and assistance.
- Domestic violence prevention and education programs.
- Batterers intervention program.

8. Domestic Violence

Community United Against Violence

24 hour phoneline: 415/333-4357

415/777-5500

160 14th Street

San Francisco, CA 94103

- Support for battered gay men, lesbians, and bisexuals.
- Advocacy and legal assistance.
- Counseling and support groups.
- Emergency assistance.
- Information and referral.

Counselors for Rape Victims

24 hour phoneline: 408/287-3000

Domestic Violence for Asian Women

24 hour phoneline: 408/975-2739

Emergency Shelter Program

24 hour phoneline: 510/786-1246

22634 Second Street, Suite 205

Hayward, CA 94541

- Serving Hayward and Alameda counties.
- Shelter.
- Support groups and counseling.

Next Door

24 hour Hotline: 408/279-2962

408/501-7550

FAX: 408/441-7562

234 East Gish Road, Suite 200

San Jose, CA 95112

- Emergency housing for battered women and their children.
- Psychotherapy and support group.
- CALL AHEAD.

Santa Cruz Co. Women's Crisis Support

24 hour line: 831/685-3737

- 24 hour crisis counselors.

8. Domestic Violence

Shelter Against Violent Environments (SAVE)

24 hour line: 510/794-6055

Fremont and Alameda County.

Support Network For Battered Women

800/572-2782

650/940-7850 (English and Spanish)

Website: <www.snbw.org>

- Referral to emergency housing for battered women and their children.
- Support groups.
- Therapy and counseling.
- Shelter facility.
- Legal support.
- Counseling.