

## AM I EXPERIENCING DOMESTIC ABUSE?

Does your partner...

- Act or look at you in ways that scare you?
- Intimidate you with his/her temper?
- Act like the abuse is no big deal, blame you for the abuse, or even deny doing it?
- Control what you do, who you see or talk to, where you go, or isolate you?
- Hit, kick, punch, slap, push or shove you?
- Put you down or threaten you?
- Take your money or refuse to give you money?
- Keep you away from your family and friends?
- Destroy your property or threaten to kill your pets?
- Force you to have sex?
- Threaten to commit suicide?
- Threaten to kill you or your children?

If you answer **YES** to any of these questions you may be experiencing domestic abuse. Help is Available.

## Crime Victims Have the Right To

Be treated with fairness, dignity, and a respect for privacy

Be reasonably protected from the accused offender

Be notified of court proceedings

Be present at public court proceedings unless the court determines otherwise for fairness or other good cause

Confer with the Government attorney

Restitution, if appropriate

Receive information regarding the conviction, sentencing, imprisonment, and release of the offender

## Luke AFB

### DAVA Crisis Line

24 Hrs. / 7 Days a Week

623-255-3487



## Luke AFB

## Domestic Abuse

## Victim Advocate

## (DAVA)

A safe place to get help



## The Air Force Domestic Abuse Victim Advocacy Program

### What is a Victim Advocate?

A Domestic Abuse Victim Advocate (DAVA) is a trained professional who provides *non-clinical* advocacy services, supporting domestic abuse victims. Victim advocates are on-call 24 hours a day/7 days a week to provide crisis intervention, safety planning, *non-judgmental* support, assistance in securing medical treatment for injuries, information on legal rights and proceedings, and referrals to military and civilian resources. The on-call DAVA can help empower you to make informed and independent decisions to support you through this process.

### What is Domestic Abuse?

Domestic abuse is an offense under the United States Code, the Uniform Code of Military Justice, or State law involving the use, attempted use, or threatened use of force or violence against a person of the opposite sex, or the violation of a lawful order issued for the protection of a person of the opposite sex, who is: (1) A current or former spouse; (2) A person with whom the abuser shares a child in common; or (3) A current or former intimate partner with whom the abuser shares or has shared a common domicile.

**DAVA CRISIS LINE**

24 Hrs. / 7 Days a Week

**623-255-3487**

Office: 623-856-4184

### What are my Options for Reporting Domestic Abuse?

Airman, and Family members who experience domestic abuse are encouraged to report the incident to a DAVA to access the full range of supportive services, including:

**Restricted Reporting** – Allows adult victims the option to report an incident to specified individuals, such as FAP, DAVA, and Medical Providers without initiating the investigative process or notifying the offender's Chain-of-Command. The Victim will receive medical treatment, advocacy and counseling, and DAVA services. The victim maintains control of how services are received and it allows for time to make an informed decision. The victim can change restricted reporting to unrestricted at anytime.

**Unrestricted Reporting** – Allows adult victims to receive the full range of advocacy services. A victim who desires an official investigation into an incident of domestic abuse should make an unrestricted report using the appropriate reporting channels, including the chain-of-Command, FAP, and/or law enforcement. Upon notification of a reported domestic abuse incident, DAVA services and FAP intervention services are offered. In addition, with an unrestricted report, a victim can request a forensic medical examination with a health-care provider in coordination with a criminal investigation. This option allows the widest range of rights and protections to the victim.

### Am I Eligible for Restricted Reporting?

The Domestic Abuse Restricted Reporting Option is available to active duty personnel, their family members, or intimate partners, who are eligible for a military-issued identification card and eligible to receive military medical treatment.

### Are There Exceptions to Restricted Reporting?

Safety is of the utmost importance, thus exceptions to the Restricted Reporting Policy do exist to prevent or lessen a serious threat to the health/safety of the victim or others. These exceptions include mandatory state, federal, and military reporting requirements (i.e., A threat to self or others, child abuse, elder abuse, people with disabilities being abused, and any high risk activities that would jeopardizes the safety of any individual). In addition, restricted reporting is no longer an option if command or law enforcement is involved.

### What Services Can I Expect from the Victim Advocate?

- ▶ Provide voluntary, needs based, immediate and ongoing services to victims of domestic abuse
- ▶ Crisis intervention and non-clinical support
- ▶ Safety assessment and planning
- ▶ Evaluation of reporting options
- ▶ Information on the Transitional Compensation Program
- ▶ Coordination of emergency services; transportation, housing, food, etc.
- ▶ Assistance in obtaining protective orders
- ▶ Representation of victims' interests at Family Advocacy Case Review Committee meetings
- ▶ Serving as a liaison for the victim with commands and community agencies
- ▶ Access to education, prevention strategies, resources and referrals for domestic abuse

### How Can I Protect Myself and My Children?

- ▶ Make a safety plan; a VA can help
- ▶ Have an emergency kit with money, medical cards, checkbook, car keys, birth certificates and other I.D., pay stubs, medicine and important phone numbers
- ▶ Plan an escape route out of your home; teach it to your children
- ▶ Know your resources (e.g., shelter, transportation and money)
- ▶ Ask family, friends and others for help
- ▶ Call the police or have someone else call
- ▶ Get medical help if you have injuries
- ▶ Ask the doctor, nurse or a friend to take pictures; save any ripped or bloody clothes as evidence and provide to either the health care provider or law enforcement
- ▶ Discuss available safety measures with the VA, including a Military Protective Order