



YWCA Evanston/North Shore is a not-for-profit social justice organization dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women, helping families, and strengthening communities.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAM (all services are free of charge)

Crisis Intervention: YWCA Evanston/North Shore operates a 24-hour crisis line, providing immediate intervention, emotional support, and service referrals, as well as a preliminary assessment to determine eligibility if emergency shelter is requested. Call toll-free: 877-718-1868.

Emergency Shelter: Mary Lou's Place is a secure 32-bed domestic violence shelter for survivors of domestic violence and their children. During their stay, advocates and children's counselors provide individual and group counseling sessions, parent/child workshops, and specialized workshops such as health education, job readiness, and financial literacy.

Community Based Services: YWCA offers community counseling services on both an individual and group basis for non-residential clients affected by domestic violence. The goals of this service are both to help them begin to address the violence in their lives and develop an emergency plan. (available in Spanish)

Legal Advocacy: Legal advocates positioned at the Cook County Second Municipal District Courthouse in Skokie, Illinois help clients understand the difference between criminal and civil remedies, accompany them to court, and help support them through the often complex and intimidating process of obtaining an Order of Protection. To access these services, contact our Legal Advocates at 847-470-5052. (available in Spanish)

Longer-term Supportive Housing (beginning February 2017): Based in a 16 unit apartment building, families who have escaped domestic abuse may access safe, affordable housing and an array of on-site services including: one-on-one counseling, group counseling, legal advocacy, family counseling, parenting education, financial education and credit counseling, case management, and nutrition/cooking. At the same time, YWCA's Employment and Housing Coordinator will assist tenants in accessing more permanent affordable housing, job training and employment opportunities.

Medical Advocacy: YWCA Evanston/North Shore trains health care professionals throughout north suburban Chicago to recognize symptoms of domestic abuse and provide appropriate referrals.

Community Engagement: Staff are available to collaborate, present, consult or provide training on legal issues related to domestic violence.

**For more information about any of our programs, please contact us at 847.864.8445
or visit our website at www.ywca.org/evanston.**