



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACTION ALLIANCE

Domestic Violence Resource Directory
1-31-2022



In mid-2019, several community and organizational leaders asked Erie Together, our region’s countywide anti-poverty movement, to help stakeholders create a comprehensive domestic violence reduction strategy for Erie County. Participating stakeholders include law enforcement, the District Attorney, domestic violence agencies, higher education institutions, various social service agencies, legal service providers, immigrant services, public health, healthcare providers, and others. The group began meeting in August 2019 and is now known as the "Domestic Violence Action Alliance (DVAA)."

One of the tasks before the DVAA was to identify specific challenges associated with reducing domestic violence in Erie County, and ways to address those challenges. The group defines “domestic violence” as “the use of physical, emotional, psychological or sexual abuse or stalking to gain or maintain power and control over an intimate partner, former intimate partner, or family member whether they live together or not.” One of the top challenges the group identified to reducing domestic violence was ***a need for improved interagency collaboration and communication to strengthen referrals and promote increasingly positive service outcomes.***

An important piece of this is the following **Resource Directory**, created to make it easier for organizations to understand relevant services provided across Erie County, know how those services can be reached, and make effective referrals. The following pages reflect those services provided by participating DVAA members from which domestic violence victims and/or family members could benefit.

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Special Message from SafeNet and Safe Journey, Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV) Members:

Victims of domestic violence in Erie County deserve the most comprehensive trauma-informed services possible. Lives are at stake. In 2018 Erie County reported nine domestic-violence-related homicides. None of those victims had received prior support for domestic violence to keep them safe. We believe those tragedies may have been prevented if those victims had received the appropriate services from professionals trained in the realities of domestic violence. Many more victims live in our communities whose lives are being destroyed — threatened — by violent abusers.

It's essential for the safety of victims and their families that the first referral for any victim of domestic violence in Erie County be to Safe Journey, which serves the rural county, or to SafeNet, which is based in the city of Erie. Together, Safe Journey and SafeNet have a combined 90 years of organizational experience dealing with all aspects of domestic violence. We are the experts in the field of domestic violence advocacy in Erie County.

Safe Journey and SafeNet have the highest level of confidentiality under statute 23 Pa. C.S.A. § 6101, the Protection from Abuse Act. This act provides for absolute confidentiality between a victim and a certified domestic violence agency to encourage open and honest dialogue and assure safety.

Safe Journey and SafeNet are member agencies of the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV). As members of PCADV, both agencies are monitored for compliance with state policies and all staff are certified in domestic violence. We also have experienced legal representation, and staff members receive up-to-date training in domestic violence advocacy.

Within this directory are many agencies that provide valuable resources for Erie County residents. Safe Journey and SafeNet take full advantage of that expertise by making a minimum of eight referrals for each victim served.

The safety of victims must always be the first priority. Safe Journey and SafeNet provide comprehensive and holistic support for victims and network with other organizations to meet the many needs of victims.

SafeNet Domestic Violence Safety Network

1702 French Street
Erie, PA 16501

Website: www.safeneterie.org

Email for general information requests: info@safeneterie.org

Phone for general information requests: 814-454-8161

Social Media: @safeneterie

Services SafeNet provides counseling, advocacy, community education, and emergency shelter.

Services are free and confidential and they are provided for all victims of Domestic Violence / Dating Violence / Intimate Partner Violence regardless of age, race, or gender. SafeNet serves individuals who are cisgender and LGBT.)

- **Community and Professional Education** (814-455-1774 ex. 238 or kswager@safeneterie.org)
SafeNet provides educational programs to organizations, agencies, schools, colleges, and community agencies.

Programs include, but are not limited to:

Intimate Partner Violence 101

This overview of IPV examines the dynamics of abusive relationships, types of abuse, red flags, long-term health effects, why some victims stay, and the services SafeNet offers to IPV victims.

Healthy vs. Unhealthy Relationships

Teens will learn the difference between healthy and unhealthy relationships. This training includes ways to recognize signs of abuse, prevention of date violence, bullying and cyberbullying, stalking, and how to ask for help.

IPV on Campus

One of the largest demographic for individuals experiencing physical, emotional, and sexual abuse in relationships is women aged 18-24. Learn the IPV risks prevalent on campus, healthy and unhealthy relationships, types of dating violence, red flags of abuse, bystander action, online safety, and stalking. Abuse/Neglect of Individuals Who Rely on the Care of Others When individuals must rely on the care of others to age or abilities, they are vulnerable to abuse. Their need for personal care becomes a barrier for disclosure and intervention. (Can be adapted for elder abuse or disability abuse.)

What Is Human Trafficking?

Examine definitions, statistics, and case studies of human trafficking as well as the effects of trauma, legal implications, and IPV services for

victims. IPV Education and Prevention While IPV is caused by the abuser's need for power and control, there are steps that can help prevent it. Community outreach and education programs explore red flags of abuse, types of abuse, healthy and unhealthy relationships, safety planning, stalking, bullying, and bystander intervention.

LGBTQ: IPV Does Not Discriminate

With IPV rates similar to those in same sex relationships, LGBTQ+ victims often face additional barriers to reporting abuse, seeking medical attention, and accessing IPV services. Cultural Barriers to IPV Education and Intervention Language, culture, religious beliefs, legal status, and fear of deportation can affect a victim's decisions to seek medical care or IPV services. This training helps friends, neighbors, and coworkers remain sensitive to cultural factors while offering assistance and referrals. Recognizing Signs of Trauma IPV can result in diminished cognitive and emotional processing, erratic social behaviors, sleeping or eating disorders, and substance abuse. Instead of treating the behaviors alone, these conditions must be recognized as trauma and addressed with IPV counseling support and trauma-informed services.

When Home Isn't a Safe Place: Effects of IPV on Children

Children experience physical and emotional trauma from witnessing IPV in the home. These consequences can be long-term, affecting their success in school and their ability to form healthy relationships as adults. The High Cost of IPV IPV also carries a staggering price tag. Statistics document the high cost of IPV from financial abuse, medical care costs, lost wages, chronic health conditions, and the lasting effects on the next generation.

BARS in Bars

Alcohol doesn't cause IPV, yet there is a connection between alcohol/drug use and IPV. This training is aimed restaurant/bar staff so they can recognize signs, defuse situations, and provide referrals.

IPV in the Workplace The effects of IPV often follow the victim to work

Know the signs that a coworker or employee could be experiencing IPV and understand potential health, safety, productivity, supervisory, and financial implications. Workplace harassment and safety planning will also be discussed.

SafeNet's medical program provides outreach and training in hospitals, medical offices, and colleges and universities.

- Medical Outreach and Training (814-455-1774 ext. 238 or kswager@safeneterie.org)

Training programs include, but are not limited to the following:

Medical Advocacy: IPV Screening in Medical Settings

Healthcare providers play a vital role in starting the IPV conversation. IPV screenings in medical settings offer victims a safe place to reveal the

abuse, which in turn helps providers make effective treatment decisions and referrals for IPV services. Screenings can save lives and relieve the trauma of children witnessing abuse at home. In addition to emergency medical facilities, practices with an increased likelihood of seeing IPV victims include OB-GYN, pediatric, primary care, mental health, dental, and orthopedic offices. When a victim screens positive for Domestic Violence / Dating Violence / Intimate Partner Violence in the medical setting SafeNet has counselor advocates on call 24/7 to meet with the victims in the medical setting. Victims are provided needs assessment, safety planning, and emergency referrals.

IPV and Traumatic Brain Injury, Strangulation, and Chronic Medical Conditions

IPV can result in traumatic brain injury, symptoms of oxygen deprivation, chronic muscular pain or digestive problems, substance abuse, gynecological problems, and mental health concerns, including PTSD.

Effects of IPV on the Elderly and People with Disabilities

When patients rely on the care of others due to limitations of age or physical/intellectual ability, they are vulnerable to abuse not only by partners but by family members and caregivers. They often fear disclosing abuse because of their reliance on assistance.

LGBTQ—IPV Does Not Discriminate

With IPV rates similar to those in same-sex relationships, LGBTQ+ victims often face additional barriers to reporting abuse, seeking medical attention, and accessing IPV services.

The Complex Emotional and Psychological Effects of IPV on Children

If children witness abuse at home, there is always more than one victim in the house. Without the support that helps build resiliency, children can carry the emotional, psychological, and physical effects of abuse well into adulthood. It can affect their future relationships and their success at parenting. SafeNet services can help.

IPV and Human Trafficking

You have likely treated victims of labor or sexual trafficking. Learn definitions, statistics, and case histories of human trafficking and the importance of referrals for IPV services.

IPV in the Workplace

The effects of IPV often follow victims to work. Recognize the signs that a coworker could be experiencing IPV and understand the potential health, safety, productivity, and financial implications. Workplace safety planning will also be discussed.

- Strengthening Families Program * (814-455-1774 ext. 276 or sgetz@safeneterie.org)
SafeNet provides the Strengthening Families Program in all age ranges from Birth to age 16.

- Lethality Assessment Program LAP (814-455-1774 ext. 248 or ryoung@safeneterie.org) SafeNet partners with the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence and multiple city and municipal and university police departments to provide this service. Police officers screen victims and make immediate referral calls to SafeNet for emergency safety planning. SafeNet and officers work together to encourage victims to go into SafeNet and receive services.
- Financial Empowerment (814-455-1774) ext. 248 or ryoung@safeneterie.org) SafeNet counselor advocates provide financial empowerment classes through utilization of the All State Curriculum to encourage victims in their quest for autonomy and restoration.
- Transitional Living Program TLC (814-455-1774 ext. 276 or sgetz@safeneterie.org) SafeNet provides services for homeless youth ages 16- 21 who are pregnant or parenting no more than 1 child. The goal of this program is to encourage homeless youth to participate in a program that offers a secure, stable environment for young parents and their children. Each parent is provided with an attractively furnished private room during their stay at TLC. Participation in the TLC Program offers residents the opportunity to focus on building a solid foundation for growth. Staff support helps to ease the transition to a new home, while increased awareness of available options and resources promotes independence.

Eligibility: Participants must be pregnant or parenting no more than 1 child and be in the age range of 16-21 and be willing to participate in group and individual learning experiences. This services does not require the person to be a victim of Domestic Violence/ Dating Violence / Intimate Partner Violence.

Counseling and Safety Services can be obtained by calling the SafeNet 24/7 Hotline 454-8161. Services can also be obtained by walking into the 1702 French Street administrative building. Appointments may also scheduled at local outreach offices located at Erie Housing Authority, Edinboro University, and Mercyhurst University. For questions or concerns from providers please contact (814-455-1774 ext. 248 or ryoung@safeneterie.org)

- 24/7 Hotline *
SafeNet provides a safe confidential hotline that is available 24/7 to all victims of Domestic Violence / Dating Violence / Intimate Partner Violence regardless of age, race, or gender. SafeNet serves individuals who are cisgender and LGBT. Services are provided by Counselor Advocates trained by the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence.
- Individual Counseling *
SafeNet provides individual counseling to all victims of Domestic Violence / Dating Violence / Intimate Partner Violence regardless of age, race, or gender. SafeNet serves individuals who are cisgender and LGBT. Services are provided by Counselor Advocates trained by the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence. These services are offered in person or virtually using tele-health. SafeNet provides interpretation services for victims who need American Sign Language (ASL) and for victims who are Limited English Proficient (LEP).

- **Group Counseling ***
SafeNet provides group counseling that is available to all victims of Domestic Violence / Dating Violence / Intimate Partner Violence. Services are provided by Counselor Advocates trained by the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence. These services are offered in person or virtually using tele-health. SafeNet provides interpretation services for victims who need American Sign Language (ASL) and for victims who are Limited English Proficient (LEP).
- **Individual Advocacy ***
SafeNet provides individual advocacy to victims when they are having difficulty accessing services necessary for their autonomy and restoration. Services are free and confidential and they are provided for all victims of Domestic Violence / Dating Violence / Intimate Partner Violence regardless of age, race, or gender. SafeNet serves individuals who are cisgender and LGBT
- **Systems Advocacy ***
SafeNet works with systems to help provide referrals, options, and training for professionals in regards to Domestic Violence / Dating Violence / Intimate Partner Violence. Services are provided by Counselor Advocates trained by the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence. These services are offered in person or virtually using tele-health
- **Legal Advocacy and Accompaniment ***
SafeNet provides legal advocacy and accompaniment to victims who are in need of a Protection From Abuse Order (PFA) or Protection from Sexual Violence or Intimidation Order (PSVI). SafeNet provides accompaniment to victims who are SafeNet Clients and are involved with the court system. This service is free and confidential and is provided to all victims of Domestic Violence / Dating Violence / Intimate Partner Violence regardless of age, race, or gender. SafeNet serves individuals who are cisgender and LGBT. Services are provided by Counselor Advocates trained by the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence
- **Emergency Shelter ***
SafeNet provides emergency housing to all victims who are in need of housing due to Domestic Violence / Dating Violence / Intimate Partner Violence regardless of age, race, or gender. SafeNet serves individuals who are cisgender and LGBT. All services are free and confidential. These services can be accessed 24/7. Services are provided by Counselor Advocates trained by the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence.
- **Bridge Housing ***
Bridge housing is for victims who have additional barriers to finding safe housing. Bridge provides a program that helps victims work on removing barriers that keep them from traditional forms of housing. Bridge Housing is provided to victims of Domestic Violence / Dating Violence / Intimate Partner Violence regardless of age, race, or gender. SafeNet serves individuals who are cisgender and LGBT.

- **Mental Health Assessment and Referral ***
Therapists help the client identify their presenting problems in relation to mental health, as well as identifying their strengths, weaknesses, resources and goals through the Transtheoretical Model. Therapists utilize the model of change to motivate clients in their readiness to change. This service is provided as needed to all victims of Domestic Violence / Dating Violence / Intimate Partner Violence regardless of age, race, or gender. SafeNet serves individuals who are cisgender and LGBT. All services are free and confidential. Services are provided by therapists who possess a MS, LPC, CADC.
- **Drug and Alcohol Assessment and Referral ***
Therapists help the client identify their presenting problems in relation to drugs and alcohol, as well as identifying their strengths, weaknesses, resources and goals through the Transtheoretical Model. Therapists utilize the model of change to motivate clients in their readiness to change. This service is provided as needed to all victims of Domestic Violence / Dating Violence / Intimate Partner Violence regardless of age, race, or gender. SafeNet serves individuals who are cisgender and LGBT. All services are free and confidential. Services are provided by therapists who possess a MS, LPC, CADC.

Eligibility

* Services are free and confidential and they are provided for all victims of Domestic Violence / Dating Violence / Intimate Partner Violence regardless of age, race, or gender. SafeNet serves individuals who are cisgender and LGBT.)

Safe Journey
Domestic and Dating Violence Services
P.O. Box 208
Union City, PA 16438

Website Address: www.mysafejourney.org , www.safedatesmatter.org , www.purpleone.org

Email Address for General Information Requests: info@mysafejourney.org

Phone Number for General Information Requests: 814-438-2675

Social Media Profiles:

Facebook: [@mysafejourney](https://www.facebook.com/mysafejourney)

Services 814-438-2675 or info@mysafejourney.org

Description of Services:

Safe Journey provides free and confidential services to all victims of domestic/dating violence. This includes individuals currently experiencing domestic violence and/or in crisis, and survivors who have experienced past domestic violence. Our services are comprehensive, trauma-informed, client-centered, and non-discriminatory. We also provide services to children, youth and teens, and have expanded our counseling/advocacy services to include video counseling and a chat feature on our websites.

Individual Client Centered Services

- **24-Hour Phone Hotline**
Safe Journey provides a safe and confidential 24-hour hotline staffed by trained domestic violence counselor/advocates to provide advocacy and counseling to all domestic violence victims and significant other family members who are in crisis situations, currently living in domestic violence or have experienced it in the past.

Eligibility: Victims/survivors of domestic/dating violence, their friends and family.
- **Individual Counseling**
Safe Journey provides individual domestic violence counseling via telephone, at our main office, at Corry Counseling Services and other community sites throughout Erie County. In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, we have expanded our services to include telephone counseling, video counseling and chat features on all of our websites.

Eligibility: Victims/survivors of domestic/dating violence.
- **Individual and Group Counseling for Children, Youth and Teens**
Safe Journey's trained counselor/advocates provide individual and group counseling for children in families affected by domestic violence. All children who are, or have lived in domestic violence are deserving of trauma-informed support and education.

Eligibility: Individuals under the age of 18 who are or have lived in a family experiencing domestic violence.

- Emergency Shelter

Safe Journey provides up to 30 days of emergency shelter, which includes access to all other services provided by our agency.

Eligibility: Victims/survivors of domestic/dating violence.

- Assistance with (PFA) Protection From Abuse Orders

Safe Journey provides assistance with obtaining (PFA) Protection From Abuse orders; which includes support from trained domestic violence counselor/advocates in completing paperwork, court accompaniment and transportation as needed.

Eligibility: Victims/survivors of domestic and dating violence, family violence or teen dating violence.

- Custody and Child Support process assistance and referrals

Safe Journey has domestic violence counselor/advocates who provide accompaniment, support and advocacy to victims through the various processes regarding child custody and support.

Eligibility: Victims/survivors of domestic/dating violence.

- Safety Planning

Safe Journey has counselor/advocates trained in domestic violence who help victims assess risk of harm while in a domestic violence relationship, planning to leave or after leaving, by developing a holistic safety plan.

Eligibility: Victims/survivors of domestic/dating violence, their friends and family.

- Support Groups

Safe Journey provides daily domestic violence and empowerment support groups provided by trained domestic violence counselor/advocates who understand the value of listening to victims share their experiences of domestic violence. Victims are empowered by sharing their stories with other victims. In response to the Covid-19 pandemic, we have expanded our services to include online video support groups.

Eligibility: Victims/survivors of domestic/dating violence.

- Financial Assistance

Safe Journey may be able to assist clients with financial assistance regarding obtaining housing or relocation.

Eligibility: Victims/survivors of domestic/dating violence.

- Information and Referral Assistance

Safe Journey staff members are knowledgeable about a wide variety of resources in our communities that may be available for victims. Staff will assist victims as desired in self-referral, and support them through the often complex processes of successfully accessing those resources.

Eligibility: Victims/survivors of domestic/dating violence, their friends and family.

- **Support in Accessing Other Social Services**
Safe Journey offers assistance in self-referral, accompaniment and transportation for other court and social services matters, including DPW, OCY, WIC, Social Security and Housing.

Eligibility: Victims/survivors of domestic/dating violence.

- **System Advocacy**
Safe Journey works within various social systems to educate other provider agencies and entities regarding domestic/dating violence, and to advocate for what victims of all ages, races and genders need from these systems. Our counselor/advocates, trained by the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence, provide informational trainings on topics such as domestic violence dynamics and how to refer victims to Safe Journey domestic violence services. These services are offered in person or virtually using online video platforms.

- **Parenting After Domestic Violence Classes**
These classes are led by trained domestic violence counselor/advocates and are designed to support and repair parent-child relationships damaged by domestic violence.

Eligibility: Parents who have experienced domestic/dating violence.

- **Family Advocacy Center**
Safe Journey has a safe play space at our main facility where victims and their children can bond and strengthen relationships that have been impacted by domestic violence.

Eligibility: Victims/survivors of domestic violence and their children under the age of 18.

- **Financial Empowerment Counseling**
Safe Journey's trained staff provides financial empowerment counseling classes that help victims achieve financial independence from their abusers.

Eligibility: Victims/survivors of domestic/dating violence

- **Informal Support**
Safe Journey encourages survivors to stop by our facility at any time, chat with staff over a cup of coffee, share a meal, and enjoy social interaction and support from other survivors and staff. All clients also have access to the agency's laundry facility. Continued ongoing support promotes healing.

Eligibility: Victims/survivors of domestic/dating violence.

- Drug and Alcohol Safe Harbor Services provided at Safe Journey
Safe Journey has partnered with UPMC Western Behavioral Health at Safe Harbor to provide their drug and alcohol services on site at Safe Journey. This service is available to victims of domestic/dating violence who are clients of Safe Journey.

Eligibility: Victims/survivors of domestic/dating violence.

Child and Teen Prevention Programs

- Children and Youth Violence Prevention Education Programs
Safe Journey's trained prevention educators provide a wide array of school-aged violence prevention programming for every grade level.

Eligibility: Children in preschool through 6th grade in rural Erie County.

- After School Prevention Programs
Safe Journey's trained prevention educators provide after-school violence prevention activity programs.

Eligibility: Children, Youth and Teens in rural Erie County.

- Teen Dating Violence Prevention Programs
Safe Journey's trained prevention educators provide teen dating violence prevention programming that addresses teen dating violence and healthy relationships for students in grades 6 through 12.

Eligibility: Youth of middle/high school age in rural Erie County.

- One-on-One Teen Dating Violence Counseling/Empowerment
Safe Journey's teen counselor/advocates provide one-on-one counseling and empowerment support to help teens work through teen dating and domestic violence issues. Now available at the Corry and Union City school districts, we are working to expand into other rural districts.

Eligibility: Middle/high school-aged youth in rural Erie County.

Community Outreach

- PurpleOne™ Training Program (info@purpleone.org)
PurpleOne™ is a 4-hour domestic violence awareness and bystander training program designed to train individuals to recognize, respond and refer victims to free and confidential domestic violence services. A primary goal of the program is to bring victims to the PurpleOne website, where they can use the Safe Place Finder feature to identify local area Safe Places, public locations where

individuals who have received PurpleOne training are available to help them. Safe Places are businesses and agencies that have completed the PurpleOne training and are approved by Safe Journey to display a Certified PurpleOne Dot at visible locations outside their establishments.

PurpleOne provides training to all interested community businesses, companies, law enforcement agencies, social service providers, communities of faith, health care providers and others. PurpleOne is approved by the U.S. Office of Violence Against Women, and continuing education units are available through Northwest Tri-County Intermediate Unit 5 and the National Association of Social Workers-Pennsylvania.

- Dating/Domestic Violence and Healthy Relationships Presentations and Training in the College Setting.

Safe Journey offers dating/domestic violence and healthy relationships presentations and trainings (from one to three hours) for all college students.

Eligibility: Currently available at Edinboro University. Presentations and trainings are also available to any other local college or university upon request.

- One-on-One College Dating/Domestic Violence Counseling/Empowerment at area colleges.

Safe Journey has counselor/advocates available in the college setting to provide one-on-one counseling and empowerment support to help students work through dating/domestic violence and healthy relationship issues.

Eligibility: Currently available at Ghering Health Center at Edinboro University.

- Medical Advocate Program (MAP)

Safe Journey has a Medical Advocate available to provide training and assistance to health care providers in developing and implementing best practices and policies when responding to domestic violence. We provide information and ongoing assistance regarding screening, assessment, intervention and documentation.

Eligibility: Any health care provider or first responder.

- Domestic Violence in the Workplace Program

Safe Journey provides a Domestic Violence in the Workplace Program available to any business or organization interested in understanding how domestic violence impacts the workplace and employee/victims. Safe Journey can provide assistance in developing informed responses and policy and procedures supporting employees experiencing domestic violence. We are available to assist your Employee Assistance Program.

Eligibility: Any business or organization.

- Ongoing education, training, and domestic violence awareness events in the community.

Safe Journey offers a variety of domestic violence education and training presentations designed to educate and train the general public.

Eligibility: Any adult or organization in the tri-county area.

- **Safe Journey, Safe Dates Matter and PurpleOne Websites**
Safe Journey maintains three websites that inform, educate and support victims of domestic violence and the general public. Mysafejourney.org, our original website, provides information on domestic violence and how to get help. Safedatesmatter.org is specifically designed to address teen dating violence. PurpleOne.org provides information on our certified PurpleOne training and features a Safe Place Finder, where victims can search for local businesses and other locations near them that are certified as Safe Places. Safe Places (identified by a PurpleOne logo) are locations where someone is PurpleOne trained to recognize, respond and refer for domestic violence. Individuals can also use the website to register for PurpleOne trainings.

Eligibility: Everyone

Crime Victim Center

125 W 18th Street
Erie, PA 16501

Website Address: www.cvcerie.org

Email for general information requests: chrissy.fortin@cvcerie.org

Phone for general information requests: 814-455-9414

Social Media Profiles:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cvcerie/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CVCerie>

Instagram: <https://instagram.com/cvcerie>

Services for Victims

- Court Advocacy (814-455-9515 or jaimestoeger@cvcerie.org)
We provide legal advocacy, accompaniment, and support throughout the entire criminal justice process in any part of the county. We additionally ensure that victims are aware of their rights and advocate for those rights to be honored. We assist in helping people file for Victim's Compensation, restitution, provide victims with the opportunity to complete and submit a victim impact statement to the judge prior to sentencing, and help victims and witnesses navigate the criminal justice process. We also assist with filing a temporary PFA, provide accompaniment to permanent PFA hearings, accompany individuals to PFA violation hearings (ICC), along with work to help individuals obtain legal counsel if they so desire.

Eligibility: Victim of a crime, significant other of a crime victim or community member impacted by a crime.

- Counseling/ Advocacy (814-455-9414 or chrissy.fortin@cvcerie.org)
We provide one on one trauma focused counseling, TFC-BT, and EMDR. In addition to individual counseling sessions, we have a healing group which focuses on artistic expression. We also have two closed groups which include Trauma Processing Yoga and Equine Assisted Healing lead by CVC and Hope on Horseback. Specific groups through Erie County Prison and Gaudenzia Crossroads are offered as well. Additionally, CVC counselors and advocates work with individuals and families to have a good understanding of the Criminal Justice System when applicable. We prepare them for and accompany them to all hearings and keep them informed throughout the Criminal Justice process while working closely with the District Attorney's Office. Lastly, we work to strengthen connections with other agencies within the community in order to make appropriate referrals to help with the holistic needs of our clients.

Eligibility: Victim of a crime, significant other victim of a crime, community member impacted by a crime

- Medical Advocacy (814-455-9414 or chrissy.fortin@cvcerie.org)
We provide medical advocacy, accompaniment and support when an individual goes to a local hospital, or the Children's Specialty Care Center regarding a sexual assault.

Eligibility: Individual impacted by sexual assault

- Crisis hotline (814-455-9414 or jaimestoegeer@cvcerie.org)
Crisis hotline available for anyone who has been impacted by a crime for questions, or a need to process the impact of that crime. This is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a week.

Eligibility: anyone negatively impacted by a crime

- Education and Prevention (814-455-9414 or amy.blackman@cvcerie.org)
CVC develops and delivers programs to the Erie County community on topics related to crime and crime prevention. We provide programming and training for school settings, community groups, professionals, and other organizations. Our focus is to work towards primary prevention, building protective factors and reducing risk factors. Topics of training include but are not limited to, sexual assault, abuse and harassment, building healthy relationships, understanding consent, internet safety and cyber-bullying, sexting, human trafficking, identity theft, boundaries, and personal safety. Specialized trainings include Parents In The Know, workplace sexual harassment, and Mandated Reporter trainings.

Eligibility: any community member

Protection From Abuse Coordinated Services (PFACS)

1702 French street
Erie, PA 16501

Email for general information requests: info@safeneterie.org

Phone for general information requests: 814-455-1774

Services

- Assistance with filing for a temporary Protection From Abuse Order
Advocates assist victims with completion of the paperwork required to file for a Protection From Abuse, Sexual Violence Protection and Protection From Intimidation Orders. This service is free and is provided to victims of Domestic Violence regardless of age, race, or gender. PFACS serves individuals who are cisgender and LGBT.

Eligibility: Must be a victim of Domestic Violence / Dating Violence / Intimate Partner Violence and meet the legal definition for being a plaintiff in a Protection Order.

- Court Accompaniment and Advocacy
Advocates accompany victims of Domestic Violence for court hearings and appointments related to their victimization. Advocates may also work with legal and court personnel to advocate on behalf of victims. These services are free and are provided to all victims of Domestic Violence regardless of age, race, or gender. PFACS serves individuals who are cisgender and LGBT.

Eligibility: Must be a victim of Domestic Violence / Dating Violence / Intimate Partner Violence.

- Legal Representation for final Protection From Abuse Orders
PFACS provides an attorney to represent victims at the Final Protection Hearings. This service is provided free of charge to Services are provided to all victims of Domestic Violence regardless of age, race, or gender. PFACS serves individuals who are cisgender and LGBT

Eligibility: Must be a victim of Domestic Violence / Dating Violence / Intimate Partner Violence and meet the legal definition for being a plaintiff in an application for a Protection Order.

- Legal Counsel for Domestic Violence / Dating Violence / Intimate Partner Related Issues
PFACS provides legal counsel for issues that have resulted from or are related to Domestic Violence. This service is provided free of charge to victims of Domestic Violence regardless of age, race, or gender. PFACS serves individuals who are cisgender and LGBT.

Eligibility: Must be a victim of Domestic Violence / Dating Violence / Intimate Partner Violence.

- **Translation and Interpretation**
PFACS works with language services to provide translation of materials and Interpretation for victims of Domestic Violence / Dating Violence / Intimate Partner Violence who need American Sign Language Services (ASL) or are Limited English Proficient (LEP). This service is provided free of charge.
- **Safety Planning and Referral**
Every victim of Domestic Violence / Dating Violence / Intimate Partner Violence has a right to be offered Safety Planning Services. For some victims it may include a conversation about what they are currently doing to stay safe and for others it may be providing safety tools and instruction on how to use them. Because every situation is different, every victims needs are different. Safety Planning is tailored to each individual need.

Eligibility: Must be a victim of Domestic Violence / Dating Violence / Intimate Partner Violence.

UPMC Hamot
201 State Street
Erie, PA 16550

Website: www.upmc.com

Email for general information requests: none

Phone for general information requests: 814-877-6000

Services

- Medical Care (814-877-3255 or hamotforensics@upmc.edu)
- 24/7 coverage by Forensic/SANE Nurses
- Forensic Team provides specialized care for patients who are in the Emergency Department as well as those who have been admitted.
- Patient populations served include those who are victims of child physical or sexual abuse, intimate partner violence, sexual assault, and elder abuse/maltreatment.
- Collaboration with victim advocacy and domestic violence agencies as well as law enforcement in Erie County and surrounding communities.

Multicultural Community Resource Center

554 East 10th street
Erie, PA 16503

Website: www.mcrcerie.org

Email for general information requests: MCRC@mcrcerie.org

Phone for general information requests: 814-455-0212

Facebook: www.facebook.com/MCRCErie

Twitter: twitter.com/MCRC_Erie

YouTube: youtube.com/user/ErieMCRC

Services

- Domestic Violence Prevention and Advocacy Program (814-455-0212 or MCRC@mcrcerie.org)
Intensive case management, community referrals, and advocacy to assist victims of domestic violence

Eligibility: Refugee, immigrant, new American, and ESL populations who are experiencing intimate partner violence/domestic violence
- Linkage to community resources and service providers

USCRI Erie
517 E 26th Street
Erie, PA 16504

Website: www.refugees.org

Email for general information requests: info@uscree.org

Phone for general information requests: 814-452-3935

Social Media Profiles

Facebook: [Facebook.com/uscree](https://www.facebook.com/uscree)

Twitter: [Twitter.com/uscree](https://twitter.com/uscree)

Instagram: [Instagram.com/uscree](https://www.instagram.com/uscree)

Services

Health & Wellness Program
814-452-3935
info@uscree.org

The Health & Wellness Program offers safe, free and confidential services for those affected by trauma and the resulting physical, psychological, social, and emotional impacts. Health & Wellness addresses the bio-psycho-social needs of the clients, understanding that empowering and supporting happy, healthy clients requires a holistic approach to their health and wellness needs. Health & Wellness helps survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking, and other forms of trauma. Our services include one-on-one counseling, intensive case management, and referral services to our community partners. Services are free of charge and regardless of immigration status

Eligibility: Connection to the refugee or immigration community: could be a refugee or immigrant, or the child of a refugee or immigrant.

Parenting Classes
814-452-3935
info@uscree.org

Our Parenting Classes are rooted in the understanding that parents are the central mechanism for building healthy families, which in turn build healthy communities. We know that every parent wants what is best for their child, but misinformation about child development, behavioral expectations, and how children learn impacts the way a person parents their child. Our Parenting Classes are designed to enlighten and empower parents to make healthy, appropriate decisions in how they raise their children, so our communities can grow stronger together.

Eligibility: Immigrant or Refugee

Refugee Social Services Program
814-452-3935
info@uscree-erie.org

USCRI Erie's RSS Program is designed to serve refugees who have lived in the US for under 60 months and struggle to find or maintain employment due to barriers such as childcare, transportation, English proficiency, or other special needs. The RSS program is aimed at empowering clients to become self-sufficient and fully integrated into their community.

Eligibility: Refugee; struggling to find employment; in the United States under 5 years (with some flexibility)

Cultural Sensitivity Workshops
814-452-3935
info@uscree-erie.org

USCRI Erie's cultural sensitivity workshops enhance the network of public and private partners, residents and organizations wanting to appropriately serve and empower New Americans in Erie. We develop specialized workshops with community organizations that promote cultural humility, cross-cultural interaction, and curiosity and collaboration with diverse residents. These workshops are tailored to the specific needs and goals of the organizations, which include employers, educators, and social service providers.

Greater Erie Community Action Committee (GECAC)

18 West 9th street
Erie, PA 16501

Website: www.gecac.org

Email for general information requests: gecac.org

Phone for general information requests: 814-459-4581

Services

- Older Adult Protective Services (814-459-4581)
Investigate cases of elder abuse, neglect, exploitation

Eligibility: over 60, alleged victim must be in Erie County, PA, at imminent risk, have an incapacity, and have no caregiver or an unreliable caregiver
- Aging (814-459-4581)
Coordination of home health services, senior centers, other programs for Erie County seniors

Eligibility: determined by specific program
- Education (814-459-4581)
GED program, adult education classes, scholarship programs

Eligibility: varies per program
- Employment and Income (814-459-4581)
VITA tax preparation, Money Works For You, Summer Jam

Eligibility: varies per program
- Housing (814-459-4581)
Housing and rental assistance, rent rebate, utility assistance

Eligibility: varies per program
- Re-Entry (814-459-4581)
Assists former inmates with transitioning back into the community

Eligibility: involvement with the justice system

Stairways Behavioral Health

2185 West 8th Street
Erie, PA 16505

Website: stairwaysbh.org

Email for general information requests: info@stairwaysbh.org

Phone for general information requests: 814-453-5806

Services

- Mental Health Outpatient Treatment (814-454-5686)
Psychiatric Medication Management; Therapy for mental health. Mental health diagnosis.

Eligibility: If no mental health diagnosis, evidence of serious mental health problem, which would be assessed by the program to evaluate for mental health diagnosis and need for treatment

- Drug and Alcohol Outpatient Services (814-464-8438)
Outpatient Drug and Alcohol Treatment

Eligibility: drug and/or alcohol issues

- Certified Recovery Specialist (CRS) Services (814-464-8438)
Certified Recovery Specialists use lived experience and recovery tools to assist individuals in achieving their goals. Designed to support individuals at any stage of the recovery process from substance abuse disorders.

Services include introduction to community resources for recovery, sober support building, recovery planning, and assistance to improve overall wellness.

- Blended Case Management (814-453-5806)
Coordination, linkage, and referral to supports and services for individuals with serious mental illness and who are in need of assistance coordinating treatment, housing, benefits, and other needs related to activities of daily living

Eligibility: Eligibility is diagnosis of serious mental illness, and co-occurring needs related to homelessness, justice system involvement, substance abuse, and other needs related to daily living

- Batterers Intervention Program (814-454-5686)

Mercy Center for Women

1039 East 27th Street
Erie, PA 16504

Website: www.mcwerie.org

Email for general information requests: cstorrs@mcwerie.org

Phone for general information requests and intake: 814-455-4577

Social Media Profiles

Facebook: [Facebook.com/MCWerie](https://www.facebook.com/MCWerie)

LinkedIn: [Linkedin.com/company/mercy-center-for-women/](https://www.linkedin.com/company/mercy-center-for-women/)

Instagram: [Instagram.com/MCWerie](https://www.instagram.com/MCWerie)

Services

Mercy Center for Women is a sponsored ministry of the Sisters of Mercy and is committed to enhancing the dignity of each person we serve through healing of body, mind and spirit.

- **Safe and Supportive** transitional housing, education and counseling for homeless women with or without children.
- **Connections** with social service agencies and volunteers to form a network of ongoing support, mentoring and education to our residents and women in the community.
- An **environment** based on spirituality and ethical values.

Mercy Center for Women is a caring environment founded upon ethical values that offers life skills, training, and support leading to self-sufficiency.

The goal at Mercy Center for Women is to empower women to become self-sufficient through supportive services. A few of the many services we provide are listed below:

- **Case Management.**
- **Safe and Supportive Transitional Housing** — We provide a safe place for residents and their children to focus on turning their lives around.
- **Education** — We promote the importance of education by collaborating with OVR and GED classes.
- **Life Skills** — We assist residents with accessing the appropriate resources to build healthier parenting skills and personal counseling practices; and
- **Connection** — We facilitate residents with social service agencies and volunteers to form a network of ongoing support, mentoring, and education.

Eligibility:

- Women 18 years old or older
- Women fleeing homelessness, addiction, and/or domestic abuse

- Strong desire to change your life
- Must be 90 days sober with rehabilitation services from a recognized D & A programs
- Confidentiality and must commit to the program outline

Outcomes:

- Successful completion of program in one year.
- Permanent housing, job readiness, and GED/College/Trade School opportunities
- Service to the community
- Case Manager will follow the clients six months after a successful completion
- Reunification with child/children providing on-site visits with Blended Case Management and OCY.

Gaudenzia Erie, Inc.

2005 W. 8th Street
Erie, PA 16505

Website: www.gaudenzia.org

Email for general information requests: rbearfield@gaudenzia.org

Phone for general information requests: 814-459-4775

Social Media Profiles

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gaudenziaorg>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/gaudenzia-inc./>

Services

- **Withdrawal Management (814-459-4775 or rbearfield@gaudenzia.org)**
Withdrawal management services are for individuals who are withdrawing from a psychoactive substance. Oftentimes, the withdrawal process can cause physical and emotional discomfort. The withdrawal management services at Gaudenzia Erie help people come through this process safely. This service is staffed 24 hours a day with licensed nursing staff. Additionally, there are medical doctors who evaluate patients on-site and monitor any changing medical needs. Medication Assisted Treatment options are available when appropriate.

Eligibility: Drug and/or alcohol issues.

- **Co-Occurring Residential Program for Adults (814-459-4775 or rbearfield@gaudenzia.org)**
Residential treatment is a program where individuals stay in a facility and receive intensive counseling services to address substance use disorders. Treatment may be long or short term depending on an individual's needs. The Co-Occurring Program is helpful for people who are experiencing mental health symptoms. Programming consists of individual, family, and group counseling, consultation with a psychiatrist, and medication management. Medication Assisted Treatment options are available when appropriate.

Eligibility: Mental health diagnosis
Drug and/or alcohol issues

- **Residential Treatment Program for Adults (814-459-4775 or rbearfield@gaudenzia.org)**
Residential treatment is an intensive program where individuals stay in a facility with both long term and short term options. Residential treatment is ideal for individuals who are having continuous difficulty in maintaining sobriety. Programming consists of individual, family, and group counseling. Psychiatric services are available as well. Medication Assisted Treatment options are available when appropriate.

Eligibility: Drug and/or alcohol issues

- Community House for Women and Children (814-459-5853 or rbearfield@gaudenzia.org)

Community House is a halfway house program for women ages 18 and older who have completed a residential program and who need a safe place to reside as they continue treatment. Programming consists of individual, family and group counseling. A significant goal of the Community House is to help women integrate back into the community. Therefore, employment, schooling, or community service is required. Women may bring up to two children to the Community House ages 12 years or younger. Medication Assisted Treatment options are available when appropriate.

Eligibility: Drug and/or alcohol issues

- Babies and Children First (814-459-5853 or rbearfield@gaudenzia.org)

Babies and Children First is a case management program helping individuals gain access to medical care, drug and/or alcohol treatment, counseling, housing, employment, and other community services for which you may be eligible. We provide in-office, in-home, and community-based services. We provide information about health pregnancy practices, preparation for labor and delivery, caring for baby, and risks associated with drug and/or alcohol use during and after pregnancy.

Eligibility: Children up to 17 years old affected by substance abuse of a parent/guardian, children up to 17 years old at risk of engaging in substance abuse, pregnant substance abusing women, substance abusing parents with children, pregnant women in need of support to prevent relapse, pregnant women affected by the substance abuse of another person, women at risk of engaging in substance abuse during pregnancy, postpartum women in need of support to prevent relapse, parents with children at risk of engaging in substance use or in need of support to prevent relapse. Erie County residents.

- House of Healing (814-315-6671 or rbearfield@gaudenzia.org)

House of Healing's primary purpose is to address the critical need for residential treatment for women, pregnant women, and/or women with children with chemical dependency and support the transition back into the community to achieve a better quality of life. Programming consists of individual, family, and group counseling. The program is developed for women 18 years or older and allows two children per woman ages 12 and under. House of Healing is staffed 24 hours a day including licensed nursing staff. Additionally, a physician on-site will evaluate patients and monitor any changing medical needs. House of Healing works with local hospitals and OB/GYN practitioners to meet the needs of the women in the program. The length of stay can last 180 days or more based on an individual's needs. Medication Assisted Treatment options are available when appropriate.

Eligibility: Drug and/or alcohol issues

- Community House Outpatient (814-459-5853 or rbearfield@gaudenzia.org)

Traditional Outpatient Services consist of one individual session and group per week as well as family counseling on an individual basis. Some people may

need help more frequently and participate in Intensive Outpatient Services. This consists of three groups and one individual session per week. Community House Outpatient offers women only, gender specific services. Transportation and childcare assistance are offered to help overcome barriers for women to participate in services. Medication Assisted Treatment options are available when appropriate.

Eligibility: Drug and/or alcohol issues

- Erie Outpatient (814-459-6304 or rbearfield@gaudenzia.org)
Outpatient services provide evaluations to determine the level of care someone may need. Counselors will help facilitate referrals to withdrawal management or inpatient/residential service when necessary. Traditional Outpatient Services consist of one individual session and group per week as well as family counseling on an individual basis. Some people may need help more frequently and participate in Intensive Outpatient Services. This consists of three groups and one individual session per week. Erie County satellite offices are available in Girard, Corry, and North East. Medication Assisted Treatment options are available when appropriate.

Eligibility: Drug and/or alcohol issues

- Dr. Daniel Snow Halfway House for Men (814-456-5758 or rbearfield@gaudenzia.org)
A halfway house is a program for individuals who have completed a residential program and need a safe place to reside as they continue treatment. A significant goal of the Snow House is to help men ages 18 and older reintegrate into the community. Therefore, it is required that you obtain employment, enroll in school, or complete volunteer work. Treatment consists of individual, family, and group counseling. The length of stay is a minimum of 90 days, but you may stay longer if needed. Medication Assisted Treatment options are available when appropriate.

Eligibility: Drug and/or alcohol issues

- Warm Hand Off (814-217-9859 or rbearfield@gaudenzia.org)
The Warm Hand Off program ensures a seamless transition for opioid overdose survivors from emergency medical care to specialty substance use disorder treatment, thus improving the prospect of recovery. The goal is to provide a compassionate, streamlined way to get overdose patients into treatment and prevent repeat overdoses.

Eligibility: Drug and/or alcohol issues

Northwestern Legal Services

1001 State Street, Suite 700
Erie, PA 16501

Website Address: www.nwls.org

Email for general information requests: info@nwls.org

Phone for general information requests: 814-452-6949

Social Media Profiles:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NWLegalServices/>

Services:

- Free Legal Representation for final Protection from Abuse hearings
 - 1-800-665-6957 (phone)
 - info@nwls.org (email)
 - Eligibility: persons seeking a final Protection from Abuse order

- Legal Representation in a variety of civil legal matters. These services are not exclusive to victims, but to anyone who qualifies.
 - 1-800-665-6957 (phone)
 - info@nwls.org (email)
 - Eligibility: low income. Also, type of case has to be in our priority plan for services we offer.

United States Attorney's Office

United States Courthouse
17 South Park Row
Erie, PA 16501

Website address: <https://www.justice.gov/usao-wdpa>

Email for general information requests: christian.a.trabold@usdoj.gov

Phone for general information requests: 814-452-2906

Social Media Profiles:

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/WDPANews>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/WDPANews>

Services:

- **Federal Prosecutions:** Prosecute federal crimes related to domestic and intimate partner violence, including illegal possession of firearms (e.g., by felons or those subject to a final PFA); stalking; cyber-stalking; identity theft; hacking; threats communicated online, in text messages, during phone calls, or by mail; and domestic violence that crosses state lines.
 - 814-452-2906 (phone)
 - christian.a.trabold@usdoj.gov (email)

- **Federal Criminal Law Education:** Provide training and education regarding federal criminal laws related to domestic and intimate partner violence to relevant stakeholders, including law enforcement, service providers, and advocacy groups.
 - 814-452-2906 (phone)
 - christian.a.trabold@usdoj.gov (email)

- **Federal Court Advocacy:** Provide free courtroom support, advocacy, and referral services to victims of federal crimes. Ensure victims are aware of their rights under the Crime Victims' Rights Act and that their rights are upheld throughout the court process. Assist with claims for Crime Victims' Compensation. Confidentiality is limited.
 - Adrienne Howe, 412-894-7400 (phone)
 - adrienne.howe@usdoj.gov (email)
 - Must be a victim in an open matter with the US Attorney's Office.

Erie County Adult Probation/Parole

140 W 6 Street, 3rd floor
Erie, PA 16501

Email for general information requests: none

Phone for general information requests: 814-451-7060

If an offender comes on supervision and needs services, we refer them to the appropriate agency. We do not do any services in house currently.

Erie County Juvenile Probation

140 W. 6th Street
Erie, PA 16509

Website: <https://eriecountypa.gov/courts/probation-juvenile/#contact>

Email for general information requests: juvprobation@eriecountypa.gov

Phone for general information requests: 814-451-6220

Services

- In House CVC advocate (814-451-6220)
- Consult website (above) for further information about the department

Erie Humane Society

2407 Zimmerly Road
Erie, PA, 16506

Website: eriehumanesociety.org

Email for general information request: lisa@eriehumansociety.org

Phone number for general information request: 814-835-8360