

# **Safety During a Violent Incident**

- When an argument begins, try to move to a room or area that has access to an exit. Avoid the bathroom, kitchen, or anywhere there could be a potential weapon.
- Practice how to get out of your home. Identify which doors, windows, stairwells or elevators would be best.
- Devise a signal or code word to use with your family, friends and neighbors when you need the police.
- Identify a neighbor who you can tell about the violence. Ask that neighbor to call the police if they hear a disturbance coming from your home or a prearranged signal.
- Decide and plan where you will go if you have to leave home (even if you don't think you will need to).
   This should be a safe place from which you can call for further assistance.
- Use your own instincts and judgement. You have a right to protect yourself until you are out of danger.
- Always remember you don't deserve to be hit or threatened!

## **Safety When Preparing to Leave**

- Open a bank account in your own name to establish or increase your independence.
- Have a packed bag ready and keep it in a secret place that is easy to reach.
- Leave money, an extra set of keys, copies of important documents and extra clothes with someone you trust.
- Determine who you could stay with when you leave. They should not be fearful of your significant other.
- Keep important phone numbers close at hand; keep your phone charged and with you for emergency phone calls.
- Practice how you would leave your home quickly if you had to. Remember – leaving your batterer can be very dangerous!

#### **Safety in Your Own Home**

- Change the locks on your doors as soon as possible.
  Buy additional locks and safety devices to secure your windows.
- Inform your neighbors and landlord that your partner no longer lives with you, and that they should call the police if they see him/her near your home.

### If You Have Children

- With the adult caregiver and child, discuss the use of a code word and what the child should do when the word is used.
- Plan where to go when fighting starts (i.e., neighbor, relative, own room with door shut).
- Teach the child to call 911 if fighting starts.
- Inform your children's schools, day care, etc., about who has permission to pick them up.

# **Safety with a Protective Order**

- Keep your protective order with you at all times.
- Call the police if your partner breaks the protective order.
- Think of alternative ways to remain safe if the police do not respond right away.
- Inform family, friends, neighbors and landlord that you have a protective order in effect.

### Safety on the Job and In Public

- Decide who at work you will inform of your situation.
  This should include office or building security. Provide them with a picture of your partner, if possible.
- Arrange to have someone screen your telephone calls, if possible.
- Devise a safety plan for coming and going from work.
  Have someone escort you to and from your car or the bus.
  Use a variety of different routes to go home.

## **Important Items to Take When You Leave:**

- Address book
- Auto title/insurance
- Bank and investment account information
- Birth certificates
- Children's school records
- Comfort items or favorite toys for children
- Driver's license/ID/passport
- Health insurance documents/cards
- House and car kevs
- Immigration papers/work permit
- Lease, rental agreement or property deed
- Marriage/divorce documents
- Medical records
- Medications at least 1 month supply and written prescriptions
- Money, credit and ATM cards
- Photographs, small keepsakes
- Protective/custody orders, police reports
- Social Security cards



# **Domestic Violence Services**

Bethany House	419.727.4948	https://www.bethanyhousetoledo.org/
•	713.727.7370	nttps://www.bethanynousetoicuo.org/
Children's Advocacy Center/Children Who Witness Violence Project	419.292.2927	https://www.fcapc.org/
Cocoon Shelter (Bowling Green)	1.419.352.1545	https://thecocoon.org/
Crisis Response	419.245.3324	Staffed 8am – 4pm; other hours leave a message or call 9-1-1
<b>Domestic Violence Resource Center</b> (civil protection order)	419.213.2700	https://co.lucas.oh.us/550/Domestic-Violence
Emergency	9-1-1	
Family and Child Abuse Prevention Center/ Domestic Violence Court Advocate	419.244.3053	https://www.fcapc.org/
Jewish Family Services	419.885.2561	https://www.jewishtoledo.org/
Juvenile Court (protection order against a minor)	419.213.6722	https://co.lucas.oh.us/204/Juvenile-Court
Lucas Co. Children Services	419.213.3200	https://lucaskids.net/
Lucas Co. Victim-Witness Assistance	419.213.4591	https://co.lucas.oh.us/3150/VictimWitness-Assistance
Maumee Victims' Advocate	419.897.7152	https://co.lucas.oh.us/3160/Subur- ban-Courts-Services
National Domestic Violence Hotline	1.800.799.7233	https://www.thehotline.org/
National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline	1.866.331.9474	https://www.loveisrespect.org/
Ohio Domestic Violence Network	1.800.934.9840	https://www.odvn.org/
Oregon Court Advocate	419.698.7067	http://www.oregonmunicipalcourt.us/
Providence Center	419.244.0666	https://www.facebook.com/The-Providence-Center-for-Social-and-Economic-Empowerment-345170038904396/
Sylvania Court Advocate	419.882.8018	https://www.sylvaniacourt.com/
Toledo Police Domestic Violence Officer Detective Teresa Talton	419.245.1132 419-936-3827	https://toledopolice.com/community/ crime-victims-resources.html
Unison Behavioral Health	419.693.0631	https://www.unisonhealth.org/
United Way 2-1-1	Dial 2-1-1	https://www.unitedwaytoledo.org/
YWCA Domestic Violence Shelter	419.241.7386	
YWCA Domestic Violence Crisis Line	1.888.341.7386 / 419.241.7386	https://www.ywcanwo.org/
YWCA Rape Crisis Center Sexual Assault Hotline & Support Group (adults & teens)	1.866.557.7273 / 419.241.7273	