



# Independence House, Inc.

*Cape Cod's leading domestic and sexual violence emergency housing resource, counseling and advocacy center to address and prevent domestic and sexual violence.*

**INDEPENDENCE**  
H O U S E

*Promoting safe and healthy relationships*

## ABUSE IN LATER LIFE PROGRAM

Independence House offers specialized services for victims of domestic and sexual violence age 50 and over. Services include specialized support groups, safety planning and coordination and collaboration with organizations and agencies who are also serving older adults.

Abuse in later life, also known as Elder Abuse, is often invisible, yet it is a growing problem which touches millions of older individuals of all races, cultures, sexual orientations, social classes, geographic areas and faiths.

### Included in the program:

- crisis intervention
- risk assessment
- counseling services
- advocacy
- multi-location Senior Center meetings and walk-ins
- other assessments and referrals

All activities are individualized to each person's situation.

All services are free and confidential.

The Independence House Abuse in Later Life Program is a specialized program funded in part by the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (VAWA); Victims of Crime Act (VOCA); Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Public Health (DPH); and Municipal Funding.

**24-hour Hotline: 800-439-6507**

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**HYANNIS | ORLEANS | FALMOUTH | PROVINCETOWN**





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## ABUSE IN LATER LIFE PROGRAM

Research estimates that 1 in 10 older Americans living in the U.S. experience abuse in their homes each year, and Cape Cod has the highest population of older adults in the Commonwealth, a compelling imperative for addressing Abuse in Later Life.

Abuse in Later Life includes physical, psychological, sexual abuse, neglect and financial exploitation. Harassment and stalking may also be present. Older victims are abused by:

- an intimate partner
- adult children
- other family members
- grandchildren
- caregivers or persons in positions of authority

The majority of abuse is perpetrated by the victim's family member or intimate partner.

Confidential assistance is available by calling our hotline at 800.439.6507.

Independence House is also a collaborative partner to many later in life agencies.

An Independence House Abuse in Later Life counselor is available at the following Barnstable County senior centers to speak in a private setting, confidentially about any form of abuse a person might be experiencing and to receive information and resources:

- **Mashpee Senior Center:** 2nd Wed/monthly 10am-12pm
- **Dennis Center for Active Living:** 1st & 3rd Wed/monthly 10am-12pm
- **Bourne Council on Aging:** 1st Tues/monthly 10am-12pm

Independence House also offers Abuse in Later Life services in collaboration with the Yarmouth Senior Center; co-facilitates special projects related to domestic and sexual violence at the Provincetown Council on Aging; is an active planning committee member of the Yarmouth Age-Friendly Community; and active member of the Cape Cod Elder Abuse Coalition.

### Independence House Programs

Domestic Violence Program  
Sexual Violence Rape-Crisis Center  
Emergency Residence Program  
Children Exposed to Sexual Violence Program  
Homelessness Prevention Program  
Child Sexual Abuse Program  
Teen Program  
Abuse in Later Life Program  
SAFEPLAN Court Advocacy Program  
Housing Stabilization Program  
Prevention, Education & Outreach Program  
Survivors of Homicide Victims Program

### Services

24-Hour Hotline  
Medical and Police Accompaniment  
Legal Advocacy  
Safehome and Shelter Search  
Childcare  
Individual and Group Counseling



Independence House is a LGBTQIA+ Safe Space. Independence House is accessible to all people, ages 5+, all gender identities, all sexual orientations, all cultures, all languages, all abilities and all disabilities.