



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.

Promoting safe and healthy relationships

SAFEPLAN, CIVIL LEGAL ADVOCACY PROGRAM

Independence House staffs state-certified, civil legal court advocates who offer assistance to victims of domestic and sexual violence and stalking, and are seeking relief from abuse and harassment.

Safety Assistance For Every Person Leaving Abuse (SAFEPLAN) advocates are available in Barnstable, Falmouth and Orleans District, and Barnstable Probate Courthouses.

Included in the program:

- crisis intervention
- safety assessment
- information on legal rights options
- assistance with abuse and harassment prevention orders
- personalized safety planning
- referrals for additional supportive services
- victim's compensation assistance

All activities are individualized to each person's situation.

All services are free and confidential.

The Independence House SAFEPLAN Program is funded by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance (MOVA)

24-hour Hotline: 800-439-6507

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HYANNIS | ORLEANS | FALMOUTH | PROVINCETOWN





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SAFEPLAN, CIVIL LEGAL ADVOCACY PROGRAM

You may request an Abuse Prevention “209A” Restraining Order if:

1. You and your abuser are or were:
 - married
 - or residing together in the same household,
 - or in a substantive dating or engagement relationship,
 - or related by blood or marriage,
 - or you have a child in common;
2. *and*, you are suffering from abuse because your abuser has:
 - harmed or attempted to harm you physically,
 - or put you in fear of imminent serious physical harm,
 - or caused you to engage in sexual relations involuntarily by using force, threats or duress;
3. *and*, you
 - currently live within the geographical area of the court in which you are filing,
 - or used to live within the geographical area of the court in which you are filing, but you left to avoid abuse.

You may request a Harassment Prevention “258E” Order if :

1. You are suffering from harassment because:
 - A. someone has committed 3 or more acts:
 - i. That were willful and malicious. ‘Malicious’ means characterized by cruelty; hostility or revenge.
 - ii. and were aimed at you.
 - iii. and were intended to cause you fear, intimidation, abuse or damage to property. “Abuse” means causing or attempting to cause physical harm, or causing fear of imminent serious physical harm.
 - iv. and did in fact cause you fear, intimidation, abuse or damage to property.
 - B. Or, someone has caused you at least once to engage in sexual relations involuntarily by using force, threats or duress;
 - C. Or, someone has committed against you at least once: an act that violates the statutes of indecent assault and battery, rape, assault with intent to rape, enticing a child, criminal stalking, criminal harassment or drugging for sexual intercourse.
2. And, you currently live within the geographical area of the court in which you file the complaint.

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.