

EMERGENCY INFORMATION

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUPPORT AND
RAPE CRISIS HOTLINE**

259-8100

YWCA VICTIM'S HOTLINE

259-8100

DEACONESS EMERGENCY

657-4150

ST. VINCENT EMERGENCY

237-4100

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE

1-800-799-SAFE(7233)

ELDER ABUSE PREVENTION

896-9696

CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE

1-866-896-9696

MENTAL HEALTH CENTER

252-5658

HISTORY OF THE BILLINGS AREA FAMILY VIOLENCE TASK FORCE

Established in May 1990, due to the efforts of a number of citizens who attended the McGuire Memorial Conference on Family Violence.

That initial conference memorialized Isabel McGuire, M.D. and her two children, Kate and Jenny, who were killed by Isabel's second husband in 1989. Conference organizers included Dr. Brian McGuire, and other medical and professional people in the community. At the end of the conference, the question was asked, "Where do we go from here?" Clearly the work needed to continue. A group of Billings people attending the conference established the Billings Area Family Violence Task Force.

The Task Force is committed to coordination of community resources and continued education for the purpose of reducing family violence for people of all ages. General meetings of the Task Force are generally held at 5:15 p.m. on the first Monday of each month at Billings Clinic in the Mary Alice Fortin Health Conference Center.

**For more information on the Task Force or to become a member contact:
Membership Committee,
Telephone: 252-6303**

**Or send a written request for information to
Billings Area Family Violence Task Force
P.O. Box 484, Billings MT 59103**

FAMILY VIOLENCE AWARENESS PROGRAM



For more information or to schedule a speaker, please call
252-6303

You may also send a written request to:
Billings Area Family Violence
Task Force
P.O. Box 484
Billings, MT 59103

Domestic Violence is a community issue in Yellowstone County

Facts:

- The FBI estimates that at least one woman is battered every 15 seconds.
- Statistics show that one third of all known domestic violence cases in Montana are reported to law enforcement.
- Physical abuse by male social partners is the single most common source of injury to women.
- 92% of all domestic violence is committed by men.
- An estimated 2-4 million women each year are physically abused.
- An estimated up to 10 million children are exposed to intimate partner violence each year.
- An estimated 1.5 million elderly persons experience abuse.

The Billings Area Family Violence Task Force seeks to raise awareness about family violence.

GOALS

- Raise awareness in our community.
- Educate about domestic violence.
- Coordinate community support for prevention assistance.

SPEAKER TRAINING

All those presenting information to the community on family violence have participated in an eight hour training course covering historical perspectives, local and national incidence, Montana law, the scope and cycle of domestic violence, and the psychology and traits of domestic violence perpetrators and victims

The Billings Area Family Violence Task Force wants you to know more about family violence.

What is family violence?

Family violence can take many forms of physical, sexual, emotional, economic, and spiritual harm. Physical abuse begins with the first slap and can end with the victim's death. While physical and sexual abuse are more likely to be prosecuted in criminal court, the effects of emotional, economic, and spiritual abuse tends to be just as traumatic and usually longer lasting.

Why should you care?

Our community pays with broken and lost lives and the nation pays \$5-10 billion dollars annually in medical expenses, police and court costs, shelter and foster care, sick leave, absenteeism, and non productivity. It affects us all.