

Who We Are

St. Jude House is a family violence prevention center and shelter that has provided comprehensive services to survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault since 1995. In the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi and Mother Theresa Dudzik, we offer hope and promise to survivors and their families.

Our Services

St. Jude House provides services to clients without regard to race, color, religion, gender, national origin, age, disability, or other status applicable by law. Our physical facility is accessible to differently-abled clients. Our shelter services are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

What is Domestic Violence?

Domestic violence can be defined as a pattern of behavior in any relationship that is used to gain or maintain power and control over an intimate partner.

Abuse is physical, sexual, emotional, economic or psychological actions or threats of actions that influence another person.

This includes any behaviors that frighten, intimidate, terrorize, manipulate, hurt, humiliate, blame, injure or wound someone.

Domestic violence can happen to anyone of any race, age, sexual orientation, religion or gender. It can happen to couples who are married, living together or who are dating. Domestic violence affects people of all socioeconomic backgrounds and education levels.



Our Mission

Celebrate Life and Serve with Joy.

Our Values

Respect

Reflect God in all we do.

Dedication

Passionately carry forward this ministry entrusted to us.

Stewardship

Responsibly use the gift of our resources.

Joy

Give from our hearts.



New Beginnings Residential Service Program

for Adult Victims of Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault



St. Jude House

Family Violence Prevention Center & Shelter

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St. Jude House belongs to the family of Franciscan Communities and is sponsored by the Franciscan Sisters of Chicago.



St. Jude House

Family Violence Prevention Center & Shelter

New Beginnings About the Program

New Beginnings is a comprehensive services program for adults designed to assist victims of violence through all phases of their journey out of abuse and on to a new life. Clients can bring children to shelter as well, and the needs of the entire family are addressed. The program provides a safe haven in which clients can explore multiple facets of their healing process, and it empowers them to take the opportunity to rebuild their lives and obtain independence as well as define longer term goals. The New Beginnings Program contains a well-organized core of services that provides the critical nutrients a family needs to heal and grow.

Core Client Services

Client services for adults are conceptualized into five core areas:

- Client Assistance
- Case Management
- Legal Advocacy
- Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Education
- Empowerment and Self-Determination

Case Management Services

Case management involves assisting clients in identifying goals and available community resources. The case management service provides assistance, information, and referrals in the following:

- Job Training
- Employment
- Health/Medical
- Housing
- Income
- Social Services
- Transportation



Legal Advocacy

Legal advocacy involves assisting clients in identifying their legal rights and options and then helping them pursue those choices successfully. Clients receive support through each aspect of the legal process whether it is a protective order, divorce or custody issue, name or identity change or immigration issue. Clients can request an advocate to accompany them to their court proceedings for support and reassurance.

Our legal advocacy program remains on the cutting edge of legislation pertaining to victims' issues, assuring the widest range of choices for our clients. This applies to the latest laws concerning victim compensation and workplace/employment issues.

Group Education & Support

St. Jude House offers several opportunities for group support and education. Groups are held on-site and are facilitated by our advocates. The following groups are a part of the New Beginnings Program:

- **HOPE** - Hearts Opening to a Peaceful Empowerment
- **REACH** - Realize Effects of Abuse Can Heal
- **PASSAGES**
- **SAFE** - Surviving Assault and Feeling Emotions
- **STEP** - Starting Towards Empowering Pathways
- **Relaxation**

Sexual Assault Victim Advocacy

Sexual assault services are provided to victims by trained advocates who specialize in supporting the victim through the entire healing process. In collaboration with the Lake County Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) and other social service agencies, we can provide vital information and support during the medical and legal proceedings. Safety planning, support groups, and awareness of community resources all contribute to restoring a victim's sense of well being following a traumatic event.



Individualized Services

Another important component of New Beginnings is one-on-one educational and support sessions in which the client is supported through his/her traumatic experiences and guided on their course to a life free of violence. These individual sessions also provide staff an opportunity to assess and address additional problems the client may be experiencing such as substance abuse, mental health problems, and a depleted self-esteem. Education in the program goes far beyond teaching; it moves a client toward positive life change and personal healing.

