

## Our Compassionate Community Partners

The Valley CARES Family Justice Center is a unique collaboration of advocates, civil legal services, counselors, law enforcement, child social workers, prosecutors and forensic nurse examiners. Together, we reduce barriers to services so that victims can be helped with abuse and violence in their lives.

## Partners Located at the Center:

Center for Assault Treatment Services (CATS), Northridge Hospital Medical Center  
 ..... 818-908-8630  
 Department of Children and Family Services  
 ..... 213-351-5507  
 Los Angeles City Attorney Office ..818-374-3350  
 Los Angeles District Attorney Office  
 ..... 818-374-2400  
 Los Angeles Police Department  
 Abused Child Unit..... 818-374-5415  
 Major Assault Crimes ..... 818-374-9500  
 Neighborhood Legal Services .....800-433-6251  
 Valley Trauma Center  
 .....818-886-0453 or 661-253-0258

We work with a diversity of other Community Partners including shelters, churches, advocacy agencies and domestic abuse centers.

## You Have Legal Rights

You can ask for a restraining order. A restraining order can help you by ordering the restrained person to:

- Not contact or go near you, your children, relatives or others who live with you
- Not have a gun
- Move out of your home
- Follow child custody and visitation orders
- Pay child and spousal/partner support
- Stay away from your pet(s)

## Do Tell

### Dahlia's Story

*"Mommy worked nights so my new daddy was in charge. Mommy told me to always follow grown ups' rules. But his rules hurt me. One day mommy took me to the doctor because it hurt when I went to the bathroom. I told about the games my new daddy made me play. I'm glad I told because now I am safe and nobody hurts me. My mommy says she is so glad we went for help at the Family Justice Center. Now we smile a lot more."*



## Facts about Child Maltreatment

*One in 5 U.S. children experience some form of child maltreatment: approximately 1 percent were victims of sexual assault; 4 percent were victims of child neglect; 9 percent were victims of physical abuse; and 12 percent were victims of emotional abuse.<sup>3</sup>*

*In a nationally representative survey: 25.5 percent of female victims were first raped before age 12, and 41.0 percent of male victims were first raped before age 12.<sup>4</sup>*

3 & 4. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, [www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention](http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention)

The VALLEY CARES FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER and its community partners provide a safe and comforting place for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and exploitation, and child abuse.

### 24/7 Sexual Assault/Abuse Hotline

800-656-HOPE (4673)

### 24/7 Domestic Violence Hotline

800-799-SAFE (7233)

### Center for Assault Treatment Services (CATS)

818-908-8630

### Haven Hills Hotline

818-887-6589

### Valley Trauma Center 24-Hour Crisis Line

818-886-0453 or 661-253-0258

### Teenline

800-TLC-TEEN (852-8336)

### Los Angeles County Info Line

211 or 800-339-6993

### Suicide Hotline

800-273-8255

### LA City Attorney Victim Witness Assistance

213-978-2097

### LA County District Attorney Victim Witness Assistance

800-380-3811

### Deaf & Hard of Hearing ADWAS Hotline

TTY 800-787-3224



Family Justice Center

Van Nuys, California

818-304-8900

[www.valleycaresfjc.org](http://www.valleycaresfjc.org)

Call for address

Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Support and services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and child abuse



# Valley CARES Family Justice Center

Millions of Americans are affected by abuse. You are not alone. Caring people are here to help in a safe and supportive environment.

## Multiple Resources — All Under One Roof



Valley CARES Family Justice Center is the first of its kind in Los Angeles County. We're here to help people who have experienced domestic violence,

sexual assault and child abuse. Victims can meet with legal professionals, receive crisis intervention, and obtain information on shelters and other helpful resources – all while their children play safely in the next room. Rest assured you're in the right place.

## Valley CARES Family Justice Center Mission...

Comprehensive and coordinated victim services

Accountability of the perpetrators

Restoring hope through recovery services and reducing recidivism

Effective intervention and education

Stop interpersonal violence and enhance victim safety

## Don't Keep the Secret

Child maltreatment, domestic and sexual violence occurs among all races, cultures, religions and income levels. It can happen to people of any age or sexual orientation.



## Amelia's Story

*"For eight years my partner beat, raped and locked me in the closet until visible injuries healed. My son called the police. Even though it was 11 at night, the center's sensitive staff and volunteers documented my injuries, collected forensic evidence and comforted me. With help from the Center's staff, I was able to regain my life through resumé building, employment and educational planning and so much more. Today, we are free from violence and stronger as a family."*

## Facts about Domestic and Sexual Violence

One in three women will be physically abused or sexually assaulted by an intimate partner in her lifetime.<sup>1</sup>

10.6 percent of women reported experiencing forced sex at some time in their lives; 2.1 percent of men reported experiencing forced sex at some time in their lives.<sup>2</sup>

1. National Center for Victims of Crime, [www.ncvs.org](http://www.ncvs.org)

2. Center for Disease and Control, [www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/CM-DataSheet-a.pdf](http://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/CM-DataSheet-a.pdf)

## Services Offered

Your safety is our number one priority. Victims who come to the Valley CARES Family Justice Center receive immediate and caring treatment and a full range of services.

- Accompaniments to court, follow-up interviews and meetings
- Advocacy
- Assistance with access to shelter
- Case management
- Childcare while receiving services at the center
- Civil law services, such as restraining orders, custody and divorce issues and U visas
- Counseling
- Education and employment planning
- Emotional support
- Financial assessment and planning
- Housing assessment and planning
- Language interpretation in more than 140 languages through our Cyacom translator telephones
- Law enforcement expertise
- Medical evidentiary exams by specially trained forensic nurse examiners
- Safety planning
- Support groups



Family Justice Center

818-304-8900

24/7 Violence Helpline

800-799-SAFE (7233)

[www.ndvh.org](http://www.ndvh.org)

24/7 Sexual Assault/Abuse Hotline

800-656-HOPE (4673)

[www.rainn.org](http://www.rainn.org)

## Does Your Partner...

- Keep track of all of your time?
- Accuse you of being unfaithful?
- Try to keep you from family and friends?
- Prevent you from working or going to school?
- Criticize, belittle or humiliate you?
- Anger easily when drinking? Use drugs?
- Hit, slap or punch you, your children or your pets? Try to strangle you?
- Act jealous or possessive?
- Yell or call you names?
- Blame others for self-created problems and mistakes?
- Threaten you with a weapon or gun?
- Force you to have sex against your will?
- Accuse you of being equally abusive?

## Your Safety Is Important!

- ♥ An advocate can help you make a detailed safety plan for home, work and in public.
- ♥ If you can't avoid an argument, be in a room with an exit.
- ♥ Avoid bathrooms, kitchens, garages or anywhere near weapons.
- ♥ Practice getting yourself and your children out of your home safely.
- ♥ Have a bag packed and keep it at a relative's or friend's home. Pack important papers, extra keys, medication, money, etc.
- ♥ Devise a code word to use with your children, family, friends and neighbors when you need the police.
- ♥ Make a plan of where to go if you leave.

