

# Youth Services



**WOMENSAFE, INC.**  
the   
**Green  
House**

**An agency that provides emergency  
shelter and support services to  
victims of domestic violence  
throughout Northeast Ohio.**

**WomenSafe, Inc., the Green House**

12041 Ravenna Road

Chardon, OH 44024

Your support of our  
efforts allows us to offer  
the following services to  
those in need  
***free of charge:***

**Emergency Shelter**—WomenSafe  
staffs and supports a shelter for  
abused women and children. The  
shelter is a safe and comforting  
environment in which to heal, receive  
counseling, consider alternatives and  
develop plans and goals. All basic  
necessities are provided to residents.

**COPEline**—a 24-hour hotline for  
support and crisis management.

**Counseling**—trained counselors are  
available to aid individuals in the  
exploration of alternatives, as well as  
to facilitate support groups for victims  
of domestic violence.

**Advocacy**—trained professionals  
are on hand to accompany victims of  
domestic violence and their children  
to an attorney, court, or social service  
agency.

**Outreach Services**—counseling,  
art therapy, support groups and  
advocacy services are also available for  
individuals who do not require  
protective shelter. Additionally,  
WomenSafe provides specialized  
educational programs to schools,  
church and civic groups, corporations,  
and healthcare institutions.

## Art Therapy

Art is a form of communication. It puts a distance between the situation and the emotions or verbal explanation, which are often hard to cope with. A Registered Art Therapist provides therapy to children who are not only in shelter but also on an outpatient basis.

## Child Therapy

WomenSafe provides child therapy for children who have witnessed violence or a traumatic experience and/or have been abused themselves. A qualified Licensed Independent Social Worker will provide individual and family therapy to children ages 5-18.

## Family Therapy

Family therapy is also available to families who are struggling with issues related to violence, abuse and stressors that put them at risk for committing acts of violence or abuse. Traditional and non-traditional families can be served (ie. Grandparents, Aunts, Uncle, etc. caring for children).

## Group Therapy and Education

A trauma support group has been specifically designed to support young adults (as young as 7) who have witnessed violence. Groups are designed to be age appropriate and confidential. Sessions are weekly and usually last 8-10 weeks.

The State of Ohio has implemented HB 10 which allows minors to file protection orders without a guardian consent. If you would like to receive more information, please contact the WomenSafe Court Advocate at 440-286-7154 x226.

A speaker is also available to come and present at your school or group on "Abuse Free Dating." To reach this coordinator, call 440-286-7154 x224.

## FAMILY VIOLENCE AFFECTS CHILDREN

### Emotionally:

- Low self-esteem
- Withholding of affection
- Low levels of trust
- Separation anxiety
- Confused of role
- Perception that they are the reason why the fighting is occurring

### Physically:

- Physical injuries during violence situations
- Sleepless nights, nightmares, lack of sleep
- Physical ailments (i.e. stomach aches, head and body aches)
- Bedwetting, thumb sucking and/or other regressive behavior
- Fear of physical contact
- Excessively needy
- Disruptive eating habits

### Behaviorally:

- Physical and/or verbally aggressive
- Withdrawn
- "Little Adult" (overly mature for their age)
- Perfectionist
- Frequent tantrums
- Tearful, nervous, overly anxious
- Unable to focus or concentrate
- A runaway
- School difficulties

## CHILDREN/YOUTH LIVING IN VIOLENT HOMES CAN LACK:

- Safety
- Control
- Predictability
- Positive physical attention
- Emotional nurturing
- Normal sleeping habits
- Normal and nutritional eating habits
- Appropriate role models
- Appropriate expressions of feelings
- Healthy coping skills

**All WomenSafe  
Services are  
provided  
FREE of Charge.**

**To Learn More Or  
To Make An  
Appointment,  
Call:  
440-286-7154  
Or Visit:  
womensafe.org**