

STOPDV Fall 2026

Newsletter

What is STOPDV?

STOPDV is the first domestic violence specialty court in Arkansas that provides not only court advocacy, safety planning, and support to domestic violence survivors, but also free legal services such as representation for eligible petitioners in active order of protection hearings in Faulkner County. Based in Conway, Arkansas, STOPDV was initially funded on October 1st, 2019. We eagerly serve clients in person or via telephone, email or Zoom from the Faulkner County Justice Building, where we primarily operate as a fully functioning court project.



Our story

STOPDV was initially founded over twenty years ago by Judge H.G Foster. While working as a deputy prosecuting attorney, Judge Foster realized that there was a need in the community to help victims who “couldn’t hit back.” Thus, STOPDV was born, with our name being bredited to Judge Reynolds. Our Board consists of a senator, county administrator, city council member, Justice of the Peace, legal counsel for the state of Arkansas, and other community members who are committed to helping survivors of domestic violence. Over the last three years, we have been able to assist thousands of clients in Faulkner County, and we look forward to serving our community in the years to come.

What is Domestic Violence?

Domestic Violence (DV) is a pattern of physical, psychological, or sexual abuse, including threats, intimidation, isolation, and/or economic coercion. DV is used by one person to exert power and control over another in the context of a dating, family, or household relationship.



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Welcoming New board Members



Janet Wilson

Janet has served as a professor at the University of Central Arkansas for more than 30 years, teaching research methodology and criminological theory with a focus on victimology.

She is the editor of The Praeger Handbook of Victimology and has coauthored research on domestic violence and economic empowerment. Janet has also helped connect UCA students with local organizations, including STOP DV. After three decades of building her career and raising her family in Conway and Faulkner County, she is honored to give back through her service on the STOP DV Board of Directors.



Brandi Wiseman

Brandi serves as Vice President of STOPDV, bringing a strong background in clinical development, advocacy, and nonprofit leadership. She earned her Bachelor's degree from the University of Central Arkansas and her Master of Social Work from Tulane University.

Throughout her career, Brandi has served as a CASA Supervisor, behavior specialist in community mental health, and domestic violence shelter manager, while also helping nonprofits raise vital funds. A Conway resident since 2005, Brandi is passionate about serving her community. In her free time, she enjoys reading, "slow maxing," granny hobbies, and spending time with her husband and children.

Farewelll to Our Summer Interns



Please join us in thanking our summer interns, Stephany Morales, Ivory Danuser, and Savannah Cox, for the dedication, enthusiasm, and compassion they brought to STOPDV. We are grateful for the support they provided to our team and all they contributed to furthering our mission. We have truly enjoyed having them with us and wish them all the best in their next chapters!



Welcoming Our New Fall Interns



Hi! My name is Blake Sims, and I'm a senior at the University of Central Arkansas majoring in Political Science with a minor in Sociology. This fall, I've been learning more about the Order of Protection process and the work being done to support survivors in our community. Outside of school, I enjoy technology, music, gaming, and spending time with my dog, Luna.

I'm grateful for the opportunity to be part of StopDV this semester and excited to keep learning, meeting new people, and gaining experience I can carry with me after graduation.



Hi my name is Audrey Lovette and I am a Senior at the University of Central Arkansas studying Psychology/Criminology. In my free time I like to workout, craft, game, listen to music, and visit family back home whenever I have the chance. This fall, I have gotten the incredible opportunity to intern at Stop DV. Im so thankful and I hope to learn more about the process of an order of protection and the amount of care that goes into helping survivors.

Welcoming Our New Fall Volunteer



Hi! My name is Anna Burnett, and I'm grateful for the opportunity to be part of the STOPDV team this semester. I'm excited to learn more about the Compliance Court process, gain experience, and make a positive difference in our community while supporting individuals impacted by domestic violence.



STOPDV offers opportunities for volunteers and interns to get involved in many areas of our work, including Orders of Protection, Compliance Court, and community outreach. These opportunities allow individuals to learn more about domestic violence, support our mission, and help make a difference in the lives of survivors in our community. We are always grateful for those who want to learn, grow, and be part of the work we do!

Thank You For Your Donations!



A big thank you to the Arvest Foundation for their generous donation and support of STOPDV! We are grateful for community partners who believe in our mission and help make our work possible. Pictured are STOPDV Board Chair Andria Otto and former Board Member Sheila Isby accepting the donation on behalf of STOPDV.

We are incredibly thankful to everyone who chooses to support STOPDV. Every donation, no matter the size, helps us provide meaningful resources and support to survivors in our community. Your generosity truly makes a difference!

Want to help in another way? Our Amazon Wishlist features items that help support our team and the individuals we serve. We appreciate every contribution and are so grateful for those who choose to support our work!



A Look Back at Our Candlelight Vigil

An Evening of Remembrance, Community, and Hope



A Heartfelt Thank You

With gratitude, from the STOPDV team

We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who made our Candlelight Vigil so special. To our speakers, Andria Otto, Judge Alan Dodson, Randy Higgins, Laura Abbott, Terri Baker, Judge H.G. Foster, Rev. Gary Logan, and Tess Fletcher, thank you for sharing your voices and being part of such a meaningful evening.

To everyone who attended, helped behind the scenes, and showed their support, thank you for being there. We are grateful for our community and for everyone who continues to stand alongside STOPDV in this work. Your support truly means so much to our team.





Purple Table Talk

Join Us Live!

Join us for Purple Table Talk, a Facebook Live event featuring guest speakers, conversations about domestic violence, and a live Q&A. Learn about available resources, ask questions, and connect with our community as we work to support survivors.

It's Coming Back!

Our first Purple Table Talk was such a success, and we're excited to bring it back! We're working on plans for our next conversation and will share the date soon. Keep an eye on our social media for the official announcement and details. We can't wait to connect with you again!

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Why October Matters

October is a time to raise awareness about domestic violence, support survivors, educate our communities, and encourage conversations about healthy and safe relationships

Remembering & Honoring Survivors

DV Awareness Month is an opportunity to honor the strength and resilience of survivors, remember those whose lives have been impacted by domestic violence, and stand alongside those seeking safety and support

Breaking the Silence

Awareness begins with conversation. Speaking openly about domestic violence helps reduce the stigma, challenge misconceptions, and remind survivors that they are not alone.

Building a Supportive Community

Creating safer communities starts with all of us. By listening without judgement, supporting survivors, sharing resources, and educating ourselves, we can help make a difference.

What can you do?

- Listen without judgment
- Believe survivors when they share their experiences.
- Learn about domestic violence and safety planning
- Share trusted resources with others
- Speak up against victim-blaming and harmful myths

Useful Info and Resources

Local Phone Resources

AR State Police: (501) 618-8000
AR Coalition Against Sexual Assault:
(800) 656-4673
AR Coalition Against Domestic
Violence: (501) 907-5612
AR Commission on Child
Abuse, Rape, & Domestic
Violence: (501) 661-7975 The
Rise House Crisis Hotline:
(866) 358-2265 Women &
Children First: (800) 332 4443
The Safe Place (Morrilton):
(888)-554 2501



SUPPORTING SURVIVORS OF
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



National Phone Resources

National Dating Abuse Helpline:
(866) 331-9474
National Domestic Violence Hotline:
(800) 799-7233 Text 'LOVEIS' to
'22522'
National Resource Center on
Domestic Violence: (800) 537-2238
National Network to End Domestic
Violence: (202) 543-5566 Love Is
Respect: 1-866-331-9474,
800.787.3224 (TTY) The Trevor
Project: 1-866-488-7386

Contact Us and More

Staff Contact Info:

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Cristal Ramirez, Compliance Court Spanish
Speaking Advocate (501) 764-6195,
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Makayla Thompson, Crisis Intervention
Specialist I (501) 764-6396,
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Alahna Romero, Compliance Court Advocate
(501) 764-6452, cca2stopdv@gmail.com

Jenny Jackson, Protection Order Attorney
(501) 504-6275

How can you support STOPDV?

Paypal:
[https://paypal.me/fcdvcp?](https://paypal.me/fcdvcp?country.x=US&locale.x=en_US)
[country.x=US&locale.x=en_US](https://paypal.me/fcdvcp?country.x=US&locale.x=en_US)

Thank you all of our donors, sponsors,
funders, volunteers, board, staff
members, and community partners.

None of this would be possible without
you!

Arkansas Victim Rights

Arkansas legate law (Act 873 and
Arkansas Victim Rights Law/Act
1262) provides these protections to
victims

- As a victim of a crime, you are entitled to specific information about the criminal case and the legal process involving the criminal case.
- During criminal proceedings, you have the right to be present and be provided with a separate waiting area away from your abuser.
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