



STOPDV Winter 2024

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 credited 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 four 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. Domestic violence is used by one person to exert power and control over another in the context of a dating, family, or household relationship.

Appreciation Corner



STOPDV would like to extend a very special thank you to all staff members, board members, law enforcement, county and district officials, clerks, donors, and supporters. It is because of you that we are able to provide DV services to the public.



**Follow us on Instagram
@stopdvproject to see weekly
updates!**

What's Happening?



Electronic OP Forms Coming Soon!

We are excited to announce that STOPDV will be converting to digital (fillable) forms! This will streamline the administrative part of the Order of Protection process and allow STOPDV to continue to provide services in the event of office closings due to inclement weather.

What does this mean for new Petitioners?

All of STOPDV's services (crisis intervention, court advocacy, safety planning, legal services, compliance, and community resource assistance) **will remain the same**, however, instead of handwriting information on paper forms, Petitioners will be entering their information on a fillable PDF version of the Order of Protection packet.

Newest STOPDV Officer of the Court

Our Crisis Intervention Specialist II, Corinne Epps, has been sworn-in as an Officer of the Court! Congratulations, Corinne! Special thanks to Judge H.G. Foster and Executive Director and Court Liaison, Terri Baker, for arranging this event before court.



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



OUR MISSION

To improve safety for domestic violence victims and increase access to resources for survivors.

@STOPDVPROJECT



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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 & More



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www.wecanstopdv.org

The Rise House of Conway 24-Hour Hotline: (866)358-2265

Staff Contact Info

- **Terri Baker**, Court Liaison, (501) 764-6401, tbakerstopdv@gmail.com
- **Lorie Mason**, Protection Order Attorney, (501) 764-6452, protectionorderattorney@gmail.com
- **Heather McKinney**, Protection Order Attorney II, (501) 764-6452, hmckinneystopdv@gmail.com
- **Amy Johnson**, Crisis Intervention Specialist, (501) 764-6396, ajohnsonstopdv@gmail.com
- **Cristal Ramirez**, Compliance Court Advocate, (501) 764-6195, cramirezstopdv@gmail.com
- **Corinne Epps**, Crisis Intervention Specialist II, (501) 764-6178, cgrahamstopdv@gmail.com

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.
- You have the right to make an impact statement in person or in writing, detailing how the crime against you has affected your life.
- Once the criminal proceeding is finished, you have the right to have a post-conviction no contact order.
- If your abuser is found guilty and the judge's sentence includes incarceration, you have the right to be informed thirty days prior to the release, parole, furlough, pardon, plea, bail or at the time of escape through notification programs such as VINE (Victim Information and Notification Everyday)

How Can You Support STOPDV?

Donate to STOPDV by texting 'STOPDV19' to 44-321,
OR

Square:

<https://checkout.square.site/merchant/ML6G3YW9FZBB7/checkout/BWPIVRF5PRTHSEDN4TXSBDW2>

PayPal:

<https://www.paypal.com/donate?token=pq08kbZamMzxvO36M03Xqjof-YIEmpvaaYfvghOy0v14Qfeo750bC-Yjmdierrs1zB9HHkfWrZSS7Np->



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

**None of this would be possible
without you!**