



STOPDV Spring 2025

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.

BREAK THE SILENCE



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



Follow us on Instagram
@stopdvproject to see weekly updates!



What's Happening?



NEW ELECTRONIC OP FORMS LAUNCHING SOON!!!



We are excited to announce that StopDV will be moving 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. Keep an eye out for the exact launch date.



SPRING INTERNSHIP

Order of Protection Court Support Intern: Natalie Vailes, has been our Spring Intern. 4/30/25 was her final day. Best wishes as you move forward.



There are many opportunities to learn and thrive at StopDV. An internship with StopDV gives you meaningful work experience, projects for development and networking, and potentially the opportunity to move into a full-time career post-graduation.

**If interested, please send resumes to:
ajohnsonstopdv@gmail.com**

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



SUPPORTING SURVIVORS OF
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Appreciation Corner



SUPPORTING SURVIVORS OF
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Hendrix Career Center Career & Internship Fair



It was a great opportunity to connect with students and share information on the services we provide in Faulkner County, as well share the great internship options available within the organization. We appreciate the chance to be part of this event. Thank you for having us!

Amy Johnson, CIS, participated in training UCA Victimology



February 21, 2025 (Continuing Legal Education)CLE 5th Division



Thank you to Judge H. G. Foster, Cortney Kennedy, Beth Goodrich, and Stephanie Marsters for hosting this informative CLE event. We hope it was a good experience for all that attended to learn about Domestic Violence and how to best support victims.



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SUPPORTING SURVIVORS OF
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

In Honor Heather McKinney February 26, 1973 – March 21, 2025



SUPPORTING SURVIVORS OF
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



In memory of our friend and colleague Heather McKinney.

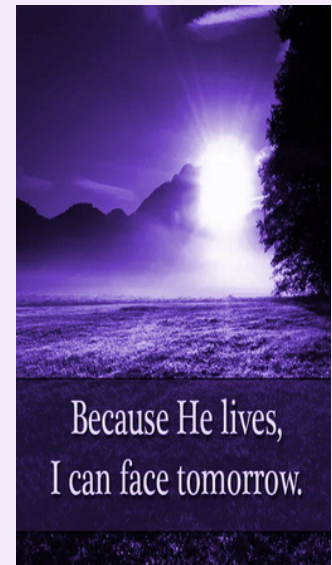
Heather was with STOPDV in the planning stages in early 2019. Once funded in October 2019, she became our Protection Order Attorney and was instrumental in the development of STOPDV and what it is today. As the Protection Order Attorney, she represented petitioners in order of protections here in Faulkner County, Arkansas. A position she had previously held in the Prosecuting Attorneys Office prior to the inception of STOPDV.

Heather was a voice for survivors of domestic violence and their children to help them regain control of their lives and give them the protection they needed.

We are so thankful for Heather and all she did for STOPDV but also for those we serve. --- Stop DV

Heather McKinney was key to the development of the Order of Protection Department. She trained me on how Orders of Protection were done and why according to the statute. When I had questions about an Order of Protection, she was always eager to offer help and wisdom. She was a woman of impeccable character and integrity. She was a mentor and a friend to me and so many others. Every case was important to her and the Petitioners she represented knew that. Heather was a light at STOPDV who joyfully and gladly served in the way she was created to serve. She always told me that we are helpers and that it is a privilege to get to work serving victims of domestic violence. She felt the weight of the important work we do at STOPDV and will be greatly missed. --- Amy Johnson

She will be missed deeply.



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Useful Info & Resources



SUPPORTING SURVIVORS OF
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

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

STOP DV

510 S. German Lane Rm 306



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
- Amy Johnson, Crisis Intervention Specialist
(501)764-6396, ajohnsonstopdv@gmail.com
- Angie Huffman, Crisis Intervention Specialist II
(501)764-6178, ahuffmanstopdv@gmail.com
- Cristal Ramiraz, Compliance Court Advocate
(501)764-6195 cramirazstopdv@gmail.com
- Jenny Jackson, Protection Order Attorney
(501)-504-6275

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=pq08kbZamMzxvO36M03Xqj0f-YIEmvpaayfvGh0y0v14Qfeo750bC-Yjmdierrs1zB9HHkfWrZSS7Np->



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)

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

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