



### Our Team

Our amazing team of regulars and part-time volunteers are committed to helping others. We take our convictions and turn them into action. Think you would be a good fit? Get in touch for more information!

### Our History

Seeing a need for pets who are left behind has stopped many victims from leaving their toxic relationship. The Gardner Domestic Violence Task Force formed a team of passionate animal lovers to develop a foster care program for the Gardner Area.

### Our Mission

Every pet deserves safety, love and to advocate for the victim and their pet(s)

**Virtual meetings are held every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 9:30 - 10:30**

## Fostering Pet Process

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

**Cost of care is taken care of by Voices of Truth**

**We need your financial help, please consider making a monetary donation to provide for the care of the pets**



**Gardner  
Domestic Violence Task Force**

**PET ABUSE  
DOMESTIC  
VIOLENCE**

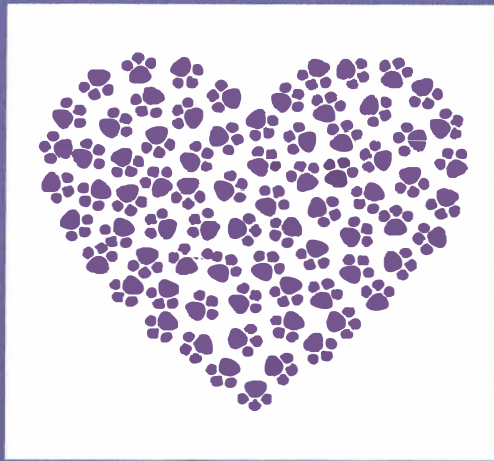
Gardner Domestic Violence Task Force

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**978-699-0203**





## Sponsors

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## STATISTICS

### Correlation with domestic violence

Data on domestic violence and child abuse cases reveal that a staggering number of animals are targeted by those who abuse their children or spouses.

There are approximately 70 million pet dogs and 74.1 million pet cats in the U.S. where 20 men and women are assaulted per minute (an average of around 10 million a year).

In one survey, 71 percent of domestic violence victims reported that their abuser also targeted pets.

In one study of families under investigation for suspected child abuse, researchers found that pet abuse had occurred in 88 percent of the families under supervision for physical abuse of their children.

**To put a stop to this pattern of violence, the Humane Society Legislative Fund supported the Pets and Women's Safety (PAWS) Act, introduced to Congress in 2015 as H.R. 1258 and S.B. 1559 and enacted as part of the farm bill passed by Congress and signed by President Trump in 2018. Once fully enacted, the PAWS Act helps victims of domestic abuse find the means to escape their abusers while keeping their companion animals safe—many victims remain in abusive households for fear of their pets' safety. Humane society**

## POWER AND CONTROL TACTICS

Harming or killing a pet and threatening that the same thing will happen to you if you don't comply - Calling your pet names, giving away or killing a pet to take away your primary source of comfort - Refusing to allow you to take your pet to your veterinarian. Prohibiting you from socializing your dog with other dogs - Blaming you or your pet for the cruelty. Killing the pet and then saying it doesn't matter. - Harming or killing the children's pet in order to intimidate, blaming the disappearance on you in order to create a wedge between you and your children - Refusing to allow you to spend money on adequate pet food and/or veterinary care (Then, blaming you when neglect is noticed by authorities) - Trying to take possession of a pet for which you have been the primary caretaker, or filing charges of pet theft against you if you leave with the pet. - Threatening to harm or kill your pet if you leave or assert any independence.