



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES OF SNOHOMISH COUNTY

VISION

The Domestic Violence Services of Snohomish County....

Working together to build a safe community that is responsive and supportive of domestic violence victims and their children and fosters, dignity, respect, hope and self-determination.

MISSION

The Domestic Violence Services of Snohomish County is dedicated to ending domestic violence by providing a wide range of services to victims of domestic violence and by facilitating social change.

VALUES

DVS expresses the values of equality and diversity by treating employees, volunteers and service users with dignity and respect in accomplishing its public service and social change mission.

The Domestic Violence Services of Snohomish County maintains high quality services with consistent and clear training, policies, procedures, review and feedback. Services are victim focused, comprehensive, flexible, and varied to meet individual circumstances. Services empower victims and we support the decisions they make. We maintain ethical professional boundaries, and collaborate with other organizations to insure that the needs of domestic violence victims and their children in our community are met.

PHILOSOPHY

Domestic violence is the practice of controlling an intimate partner or family member. This control is wielded through the use of physical, psychological, sexual and economic abuse, with the ultimate result of destroying the mind, feeling, or body of one's partner.

DVS exists because violence has become an accepted cultural norm for exercising power and control in relationships and society. Because domestic violence disproportionately affects women, the agency is committed to providing safe, supportive refuge and appropriate services for battered women and their children.

DVS believes that battering is a learned behavior and that batterers must be held accountable for their use of violence. Concomitantly, our social and legal systems must accept responsibility for confronting violence at all levels. The agency will work within the community to ensure that its response to violence includes an understanding of the issues, swift and appropriate interventions, and a collective denunciation of the use of violence.

DVS believes that every individual has the right to live in a violence-free atmosphere, and is committed to creating such an environment.