

THE DOVE



Domestic Violence Services of Snohomish County Newsletter



Letter from CEO, Debra Bordsen

Happy 2024!

This year DVS is excited to launch our first tri-annual newsletter. Each newsletter will include information about upcoming events, educational articles on subjects that affect our clients, and a spotlight of some of the services that our agency provides.

As we begin 2024, Domestic Violence Services remains steadfast in supporting survivors of intimate partner violence, and supporting the community of Snohomish County with resources and education. These endeavors rely on the support and knowledge of the community that we serve, and this newsletter is a small way we hope we can continue to grow the amazing relationship we have with our supporters and community members. Should you have any ideas for future topics, questions about current issues, or just want some more information, please don't hesitate to reach out to Chris@dvs-snoco.org.

We wish you and yours, a safe and cozy winter.

-Debra Bordsen, Chief Executive Officer
And DVS Staff

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VIOLENCE: HOW IS IT
DIFFERENT THAN DV?**

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UPCOMING EVENTS



DV vs. IPV: What's the difference?

by DVS Staff

You may have noticed that the DVS tagline has changed to “Intimate Partner Violence Centered.” This change was made to clearly communicate our mission with the community, and help the citizens of Snohomish County more quickly identify the appropriate resources to best assist them in finding safety. But what is Intimate Partner Violence, and how is it different than Domestic Violence?

It's generally easiest to explain domestic violence first, as it's the umbrella term that includes intimate partner violence. Domestic Violence is, by legal definition, physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or the infliction fear of harm, bodily injury, or assault, sexual assault, coercive control, harassment, or stalking of someone by an intimate partner, family member or household member. Basically, violence from within the home, a dating relationship, or family unit. This means that the circle of individuals considered DV perpetrators is quite large. For example, brothers who get into a physical altercation, parents who use coercive control over their children, and threatening behavior from one roommate to another would all fall under this category.

While this definition is based on the legal definition of Domestic Violence, some organizations may use it differently, or identify other forms of violence between two people in a domestic relationship to fall under their umbrella definition.

Intimate Partner Violence, or IPV, is the act of one individual controlling another individual with whom they have had a romantic or dating relationship through physical violence, manipulation, or other methods of control. These are the survivors of domestic violence that DVS is funded to serve in Snohomish County. The resources supplied by DVS, including emergency shelter, legal and housing advocacy, and others, are specific to Intimate Partner Violence. Advocates are trained on violence that occurs within dating, spousal or romantic relationships, as well as the healing and aftermath of intimate partner violence.

DVS works towards a future where every Snohomish County resident is safe and able to pursue any future they desire, by specifically assisting survivors of intimate partner violence through our programs.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES

Domestic Violence Services of Snohomish County (DVS) is a private, non-profit organization serving Snohomish County since 1976. We are the only program in Snohomish County providing emergency shelter and comprehensive, confidential services to victims of domestic abuse without regard to age, gender, race, religion, culture, national origin, sexual orientation or income level. DVS provides individual and community awareness programs which can affect the social change necessary to eliminate domestic violence throughout Snohomish County.

Department Highlight: Housing



By DVS Staff

Every three months we'd like to take a moment and highlight a department at DVS, the work that's being done and the hard-working staff that does the work. This month we'll be focusing on our Housing Department.

The Housing Department is lead by Housing Manager Joell Coltrane, and has seven staff members dedicated to assisting survivors in their search for housing and safety. Between July 2022 and June 2023, Housing Advocates worked with more than 65 households to provide housing, and 120 households with other housing needs. These advocates and case managers work in a variety of ways, either through county lead programs such as Rapid Rehousing or partnerships with Everett Housing Authority or by allocating flex funds to survivors in need of rental assistance, relocation, safety and more.

Some successes over the previous year include a doubling of the Transitional housing program units, where DVS works with families who may not need confidential shelter but could use an in-between location while searching for a new residence with our Rapid Rehousing Program. In the beginning of 2022 the department had two units available for families, and now there are four available. During this time the department has also strengthened relationships with local community partners, including Everett Housing Authority and Landlord Engagement Services, enabling staff to help more survivors than ever before.

While the department has continued to grow since the beginning of the pandemic, some challenges have surfaced as well. As rents in Snohomish County continue to climb, survivors of Intimate Partner Violence relationships have some significant barriers to safe housing.

Single parent households can struggle to find affordable housing, due to challenges including single income restrictions, high deposit requirements, financial abuse from previous partners, and rental history whilst in traumatic living situations.

If interested in assisting with family needs, the department could always use house kits, which include sheets, towels, dishes, pots and pans, cleaning supplies for households, etc. These items can also be purchased with cash donations from the community in the form of unrestricted funding. If interested in joining the housing department, you are encouraged to apply at <https://dvs-snoco.org/who-we-are-employment/>.

Should you or someone you know need IPV centered Housing Resources, please contact our support line at 425 252 2873.



UPCOMING EVENTS:

32nd Annual Chocolate and Wine Lovers' Gala

Friday, March 8, 2024

Tulalip Resort Casino

\$125 per person, \$875 for a table of 8
(see flyer on last page)

Tulalip Family Night

February 13th

Family Nights with Healthy relationship discussion for Tulalip Tribe Youth.

For more info, please reach out to

Annie@dvs-snoco.org

Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month Events

Various Dates Across the County

Keep your eyes open for events

related to Teen Dating Violence

Awareness Month or reach out to

Liz@dvs-snoco.org if you'd like to be involved.

If you are concerned about a loved one, or do not feel safe in your own relationship, please call our free, 24 hour support line at

**425-25-ABUSE
425-252-2873**

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES OF SNOHOMISH COUNTY

Presents

CHEERS TO THE GOLDEN ERA

32nd Annual

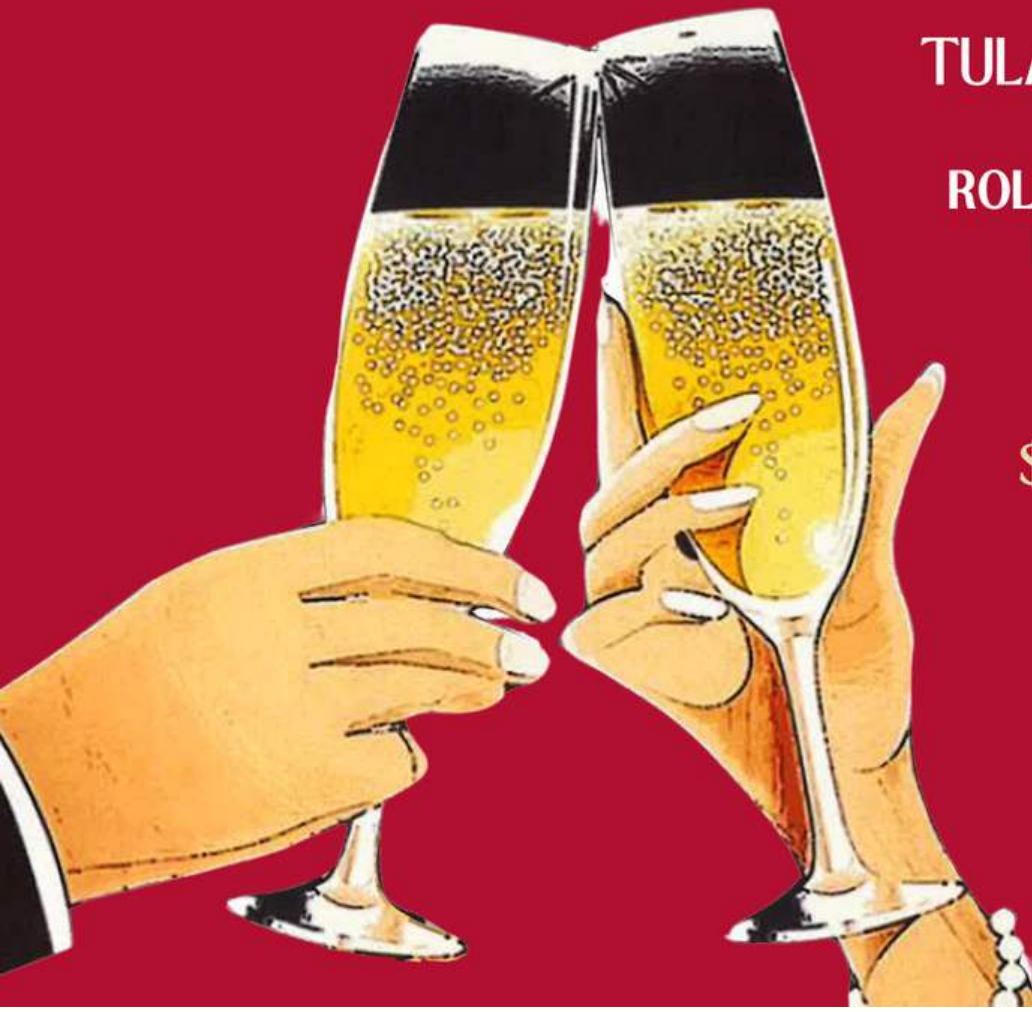
CHOCOLATE & WINE LOVERS'
GALA AUCTION

FRIDAY
MARCH 8, 2024

TULALIP RESORT CASINO

**ROLL OUT THE RED CARPET
FOR A NIGHT IN OLD
HOLLYWOOD**

**\$125 PER PERSON
\$875 PER TABLE OF 8**



Domestic Violence Services
of Snohomish County