

Gresham Safe Start

Contact Info:

Domestic Violence Advocate

503.674.3610 ext. 349

Bilingual Spanish

Domestic Violence Advocate

503.674.3610 ext. 325

Parent-Child Specialist

503.674.3610 ext. 274

Mailing Address:

Gresham Child Welfare

355 NW Division

Gresham, OR 97030

Fax: 503.674.3620

helpful numbers:

Portland Women's Crisis Line

24 hour support; shelter and legal referral

503.235.5333

1.888.235.5333

Linea UNICA Crisis Line

en espanol; 24 hour support; shelter and legal referral

503.232.4448

VOA Home Free

domestic violence support; adult and children's

domestic violence support groups

503.771.5503

Child Abuse Hotline

503.731.3100

Multnomah County Legal Aid

503.224.4086

Human Solutions

domestic violence support groups and social
services

503.528.0200

Catholic Charities

El Programa Hispano

503.669.8350

International Refugee Center of Oregon (IRCO)

503.234.1541



Gresham

Safe Start

Working together to support parents, caregivers and their children who have experienced domestic violence in staying safe and healing from the trauma of abuse.

A collaboration between:

Volunteers Of America Oregon – Home Free

Catholic Charities – El Programa Hispano – Project UNICA

Listen To Kids – Parent-Child Involvement Project

Multnomah County

Department of Human Services – Gresham Child Welfare



who we are...

Safe Start is a team of service providers working together with Gresham Child Welfare to support parents and their children who have experienced violence or abuse in their home.

The vision of the Safe Start project is that children who are exposed to child abuse and domestic violence are safe, supported and offered the best opportunity to remain with or be reunited with their non-abusing parent.

The Safe Start team recognizes that non-abusive parents are in the best position to help children heal.

Services are free to parents and their children ages 0-6 referred by Gresham Child Welfare.

"My mom and dad, sometimes they get in a fight... sometimes my mom gets scared of my dad when he yells at her. Sometimes he smacks her...my mom gets scared that he might smack us, like he did to my mom." - 1st grader

Domestic Violence Advocacy

It is often difficult for a family to find support when domestic violence is happening.

An advocate provides support and assistance to parents who have experienced domestic violence. An advocate can help connect to resources, plan for safety, access court advocacy, get through the restraining order process, and assist with other ongoing needs.

Parent-Child Support

Experiencing domestic violence affects a parent's ability to parent as well as children's sense of security and well-being.

A parent-child specialist will work with domestic abuse survivors and their children to learn how violence and abuse has affected their family. A parent-child specialist works with these parents to support them in keeping their children safe, heal the parent-child relationship, and strengthen their bond with their children. A parent-child specialist can meet with parents and their children at home or other safe locations.

myths & facts

about Domestic Violence

MYTH: Domestic violence is a "loss of control."

FACT: Violent behavior is a choice. Abusers use it to control their victims. Domestic violence is about batterers using their control; their actions are very deliberate.

MYTH: The victim is responsible for the violence because she provokes it.

FACT: No one asks to be abused. And no one deserves to be abused regardless of what they say or do.

MYTH: Children aren't aware of the violence in their home.

FACT: Studies show that most children are aware of violence directed at their caregiver.