



# Women's Advocates

Breaking the cycle of domestic violence.

## Big News: Women's Advocates' Aftercare and Outreach to Grow

A long-time funder of Women's Advocates, the Patrick and Aimee Butler Family Foundation, has awarded Women's Advocates a \$175,000 Special Projects Grant to expand our Aftercare and Outreach Programs. With this grant, property managers and landlords will be informed about domestic violence resources in the community, housing advocates will learn about advocacy resources for domestic violence victim/survivors, domestic violence advocates will learn about effective housing advocacy tools and resources in the community, and our aftercare and outreach programs will be able to essentially double their impact. Women's Advocates is excited to increase housing options and stability for victims of domestic violence and is grateful for this opportunity!

## June 2019 | Mississippi Market #PositiveChange Program supporting Women's Advocates

Women's Advocates has been chosen as a #PositiveChange program partner with Mississippi Market once again! Throughout the month of June, please shop at one of the three [Mississippi Market Natural Foods Co-op](#) stores in St. Paul and round up your grocery bill to the next dollar and/or donate your reusable bag credit to Women's Advocates. Each and every transaction makes an impact for our mission.

Your support in this effort will go a long way! Two years ago, our supporters and Mississippi Market shoppers set a #PositiveChange program record and raised over \$13,000 for our shelter and services - we can do it again! More information about #PositiveChange can be found [here](#).



## Did You Know?

### Dentists as a first line of defense against domestic violence

An article in the *Journal of Aggression, Maltreatment and Trauma* reports that as much as 75 percent of head and neck trauma associated with domestic violence occurs with oral injury. The oral biomarkers that could help dentists potentially identify domestic violence victims include tears, fractures, breaks and chips in the teeth and mouth that would be inconsistent with personal history and, therefore, raise the index of suspicion.

According to the publication, dentists receive little to no education about identifying and discussing domestic violence with potential victims, yet they may be the first and only health professional to evaluate a domestic violence victim. Read more [here](#).

### New book dismantles the myths that surround domestic violence

In *No visible bruises: what we don't know about domestic violence can kill us* journalist Rachel Louise Snyder gives context for what we don't know we're seeing. She frames this urgent and immersive account of the scale of domestic violence in our country around key stories that explode the common myths: that if things were bad enough, victims would just leave; that a violent

## Therapy Dog Visit

On an evening in April, Women's Advocates had a visit from a dog named Gilly to spend time with residents, their children, and staff. Gilly is a 170 pound Newfoundland with certification as a therapy animal, trained to gently interact with anyone and give an individual the opportunity to hug, pet, and play in a relaxed, soothing environment. We will welcome Gilly and his owner back for visits in May and June!



person cannot become nonviolent; that shelter is an adequate response; and, most insidiously, that violence inside the home is a private matter, sealed from the public sphere and disconnected from other forms of violence. Through the stories of victims, perpetrators, law enforcement, and reform movements from across the country, Snyder explores the real roots of private violence, its far-reaching consequences for society, and what it will take to truly address it. Read more about this book [here](#).

## Increasing the statute of limitations for civil lawsuits over injuries caused by domestic violence from one year to two years

On May 14, New York Governor Andrew Cuomo signed legislation allowing judges to reduce prison sentences for domestic abuse victims who committed crimes while defending themselves against their abusers. The same day, the New York Assembly passed bills that would give other types of support to abused men and women. One would expand the family court's definition of domestic violence to include not just acts of physical force, but also identify theft, grand larceny and coercion. Other approved legislation would increase the statute of limitations for civil lawsuits over injuries caused by domestic violence from one year to two years, and prohibit employers from discriminating against domestic violence survivors. As of May 18, those bills still needed approval in the state Senate. Click [here](#) or [here](#) to read more.

## Closing the marital rape loophole in Minnesota

Minnesota has long allowed people who rape their partner to escape penalties if they meet certain conditions, a law Gov. Tim Walz called "antiquated and shameful" before signing a bill to repeal it May 2. "The concept of a pre-existing relationship defense should never

## June 1, 2019 | "Fighting Femicide" Documentary Screening

"Fighting Femicide", a documentary from a filmmaker part of Saint Paul Neighborhood Network's (SPNN) fellowship program, follows survivors on their journey to find ways to end the cycle of violence. SPNN, a non-profit community media arts organization, will host a screening event "New Angle" on June 1 from 12:00 pm to 7:30 pm at SPNN (550 Vandalia St. Suite 170 in St. Paul). This event will highlight six documentaries created by SPNN's filmmaker fellows. Screening times and more information about New Angle can be found [here](#).

## How to Help Year-Round

We seek community support to fulfill shelter and resident needs, including:

**Facebook Fundraiser:** You can easily raise awareness and encourage your network to support our cause with just a few clicks. No fees are deducted for donations made on Facebook. Start at [our page here](#) and click "Create Fundraiser."

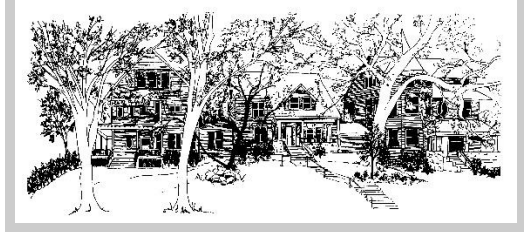
**Gift Cards:** Gift cards to Target, Walmart, gas stations, coffee shops, and local restaurants are useful to help Women's Advocates fill immediate needs for our residents and aftercare participants year-round.

**AmazonSmile:** Your online shopping can create REAL impact for Women's Advocates. All you have to do is start your online shopping [HERE](#), designate Women's Advocates as your charity of choice, and the AmazonSmile Foundation

will donate 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible products to us. Please bookmark the link in your browser.

*Any questions about volunteering, fundraising, or donating gift cards can be sent to [development@wadvocates.org](mailto:development@wadvocates.org).*

have been part of our criminal statutes," Walz said. "It's reprehensible, and because of Jenny it is now going to be repealed." View the article [here](#).



## Quick Links

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Crisis Line: [651-227-8284](tel:651-227-8284)