



Women's Advocates

Breaking the cycle of domestic violence

Save the Date – 10/15 - Emergency Response Virtual Benefit

This year, we are going virtual with our annual fundraising event to recognize domestic violence awareness month and the movement to end domestic violence. In the midst of a global pandemic, we've been called on by the community to help more. To do this, we need support and invite you to join us.

Our virtual event will take place on Thursday, October 15 at Noon CST. The event is free to attend and donations will be requested. A challenge grant has been issued – a dollar for dollar match up to \$75,000. This fund will equip Women's Advocates to continue supporting victims of domestic violence with 24/7 crisis intervention, emergency shelter, housing advocacy, and the mobilization of safety resources throughout the community and beyond. Click [here](#) to RSVP. We will follow up with instructions on how to participate.

Women's Advocates' educator resource toolkit

Women's Advocates recognizes the support educators need during these challenging times to help students who may be unsafe in their homes or in their dating relationships. Women's Advocates has put together an interactive Educator Resource Toolkit, which outlines simple and effective ways to support students navigating these challenging situations.

What to do if you're concerned a student is experiencing violence in their home and/or relationships



A Guide to Supporting Children Exposed to Domestic Violence - Children are exposed to domestic violence every day and this resource provides a comprehensive guide on how to truly support children through traumatic experiences.

WOMEN'S ADVOCATES
EMERGENCY RESPONSE
Virtual Benefit
OCTOBER 15, 2020 | NOON

DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT!
THE OTTO BREMER TRUST HAS ISSUED
A CHALLENGE GRANT TO WOMEN'S ADVOCATES –
A DOLLAR FOR DOLLAR MATCH FOR ALL GIFTS
FROM THIS EVENT UP TO **\$75,000**

RAISING CRITICAL FUNDS FOR 24/7 CRISIS INTERVENTION, SAFETY RESOURCE MOBILIZATION,
EMERGENCY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER, AND HOUSING ADVOCACY

Free to attend | Donations requested at event | Full details and RSVP at wadvocates.org/event/2020event

Physically distant activities for children in shelter

Navigating the COVID-19 pandemic has presented Women's Advocates' staff, including our child care team, to seek creative new ways to provide learning opportunities to residents and their children. Over the last few months, we've introduced activities utilizing the Seesaw learning application. Seesaw is a platform which provides remote learning activities to engage students, schools, and organizations, and help with resources to promote remote learning experiences.



Seesaw has allowed our program to connect with children in shelter in a socially distant manner. Some examples of the activities we've utilized include narrated children's story time, virtual zoo field trips, making your own comic, as well as mindfulness and art activities. Additionally, families can access Seesaw activities at any time when it's convenient for them. Our Children's Program team is excited to use this platform as a way to interact with families under unique circumstances now and into the future.

Virtual violence prevention education for schools and educators

With the uncertainty of implementing remote or hybrid education methods this upcoming school year, Women's Advocates has developed and compiled a varied selection of violence prevention education and domestic violence awareness options for schools, educators, and students to use this upcoming school year and

August Webinar Series



Women's Advocates' Education and Outreach Program has spent the summer providing remote learning opportunities centered around domestic violence related topics. During August, the series will continue with the following webinar events:

- August 6, 1:00 pm - Assessing for & Responding to Reproductive Coercion
- August 12, 10:00 am - Domestic Violence 101
- August 19, 1:00 pm - Supporting Children Through Trauma
- August 25, 10:00 am - Navigating when a Survivor is in Crisis.

You can quickly register for free for any of these webinars [here](#). Please share these educational opportunities with your networks. If you'd like to be included in regular email updates from Women's Advocates' Education and Outreach Program including upcoming webinars/events, new resources, and other information related to domestic violence education and prevention, click [here](#) to sign up.

You can view video recordings or download PDFs and PowerPoint slides from our previous webinars at [this webpage](#).

"Inside Scoop" blog series updates

Community members often have questions about what a shelter really is, who works there, and what work is being done. Women's Advocates' team

beyond. Our varied suite of materials, presentations, and resources are available [here](#), which include:

Online Mini Video Series - Are you looking to learn more or educate students about dating and family violence? Women's Advocates has created a mini YouTube video series on these two topics. These videos discuss definitions, who is impacted, different forms, lasting impacts, and how to help yourself or someone in need.

Engaging Youth in Violence Prevention Webinar - Are you wondering how to get youth involved in stopping relationship abuse before it starts? Watch our recent 90-minute webinar about how Women's Advocates has engaged students in the classroom and planted the seeds for meaningful change.

Emotional Safety Planning - Safety planning is not always about the immediate danger. Sometimes it is helpful to have a plan for when you find yourself becoming emotionally distressed. Here is an interactive and useful PDF to help you explore different ways to promote your own emotional wellness during these challenging times.

Creating a Youth Self-Care Plan - Self-care is a common term, but how do you actually take care of yourself? One way is to create a plan and identify different ways that you can promote your holistic wellness to prevent a crisis from happening.

Children's Safety Plan - It can be challenging to discuss serious, life concerning matters with children, but this guide provides interactive ways for children to talk about safe places and people.



of family advocates, housing advocates, facilities and kitchen associates, administrative staff, and more have shared varied perspectives on their work. We are sharing this information in hopes that it will be helpful to individuals who need safety but may be hesitant to stay at a shelter, and to those who work in fields related to ours.

Follow the links below to view the next three blog entries from the series:

- [Challenges Faced at Women's Advocates](#)
- [Working in a Domestic Violence Shelter](#)
- [How Women's Advocates is Unique](#)



COVID-19 Specific Safety Resources

Staying home isn't a safe option for everyone. [This document](#) is continually updated with safety resources, crisis lines, interactive tools, press coverage of COVID-19's impact for survivors, and more. Follow the link above to learn about the resources and helplines available for you or someone in need.

Women's Advocates' Donation Needs

We are so grateful for the support we are receiving from businesses and individuals to help Women's Advocates with immediate supply needs. For the time being, we are not allowing in-kind donation deliveries, *except* for the items below:

Gift Cards: Gift cards to Target, Walmart, Cub Foods, and local gas stations are useful to help Women's Advocates fill immediate needs for our residents and aftercare participants.

Children's Items (preferred new)

- Hot Wheels cars
- Dolls, action figures (inclusive representation)
- Baby and toddler toys (blocks, rattles, musical toys, sensory)
- Activity books
- Amazon Fire kids tablets

Supply Needs (all new):

- Kleenex
- Latex or rubber gloves
- Face masks, including home-made
- Oral thermometers
- Bleach
- All purpose cleaners
- Disinfectant wipes

If you can support us with these items, please reach out to donations@wadvocates.org to coordinate. Unapproved donations will not be accepted.

Other Ways You Can Help

- Head to our [donate page](#) to review the various ways you can support Women's Advocates
- Start a Facebook or GoFundMe fundraising page and select Women's Advocates as the beneficiary OR donate directly to us [here](#)
- Ask your employer to match your donations (email development@wadvocates.org to coordinate)



Women's Advocates' Live Chat

Women's Advocates has recently introduced a live chat feature to our website for individuals who may need another option when reaching out for crisis support or for friends, family, and colleagues seeking advice on how to best support a loved one.

Follow [this link](#) to our website and click the "Live Chat Now" or "Leave Us A Message" button at the top of the page to start a chat (7:00 am - 3:00 pm Monday through Friday and some overnight hours) or leave a message (any time) for our Crisis Resource Advocates.



Quick Links

[Our Website](#)
[Donate Now](#)
[Volunteer](#)
[Wish List](#)
[Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [YouTube](#)
Crisis Line: [651-227-8284](tel:651-227-8284)

- Shop our Amazon wish list (<http://a.co/jkkHfvm>) for cleaning items, clothing basics, and personal care/hygiene products to be directly shipped to us

