

# OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

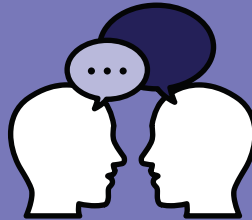
Everyone deserves to feel safe in their relationships.

## HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS

Healthy relationships consist of many different characteristics and behaviors:

### Communication

- Communicating about the terms of endearment that a partner feels comfortable with and that are affirming of their identity.
- Checking in about the words someone feels most comfortable using to describe parts of their body, and being mindful of potential dysphoria when engaging in intimacy.



### Respect

- Using someone's correct name and pronouns.
- Respecting the validity of someone's sexual orientation regardless of the gender of the person they are in a relationship with.



### Equality

- Both people having equal say in relationship decisions.



### Independence

- Spending alone time with friends and family without fearing repercussions from your partner.



### Boundaries

- Respecting that a partner might not be ready to be 'out' to friends or family.

### Trust & Honesty

- Feeling able to confide in your partner and knowing they have your best interest at heart.



## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY

- LGBTQ people are at an equal or higher risk of experiencing Domestic Violence compared to their non-LGBTQ counterparts.
- Black LGBTQ people are more likely to experience domestic violence.
- The lifetime prevalence rate for transgender people is 54%.
- Transgender individuals are nearly twice as likely to experience intimate partner violence in public.
- Transgender people of color are 3.69 times more likely to experience intimate partner violence in public.
- 19% of transgender people reported experiencing domestic violence by a family member because they were transgender or gender nonconforming.

# DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS

Domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behavior in a relationship that is used by one partner to gain or maintain power and control over another intimate partner.

## DOES THE PERSON YOU LOVE...

- Keep track of you all the time?
- Become excessively jealous?
- **Restrict access to gender affirming resources (ex. hormones, binders, clothing)?**
- Isolate you from friends and family?
- **Suggest that no one will believe that there is abuse in your relationship because “that doesn’t happen in LGBTQ relationships”?**
- **Call you by the incorrect pronoun or name?**
- Blame you for everything?
- **Threaten to ‘out’ you as a method of control?**
- Force you to have sex against your will?
- Destroy things that are important to you?
- **Undermine the validity of your gender identity, gender expression or sexual orientation?**
- **Threaten to restrict access to children if the relationship ends (custody & visitation)?**

If you answered "yes" to any of these , you may be a victim of domestic violence. You are not alone.

TCC & DVCC are working together to ensure that LGBTQ individuals who are experiencing domestic violence get the affirming support they deserve.

## RESOURCES

Domestic violence agencies in Fairfield County:

- Domestic Violence Crisis Center: [dvccct.org](http://dvccct.org)
- YWCA Greenwich Domestic Abuse Services: [ywcagreenwich.org](http://ywcagreenwich.org)
- Women's Center of Greater Danbury: [wcogd.org](http://wcogd.org)
- Center for Family Justice: [centerforfamilyjustice.org](http://centerforfamilyjustice.org)

LGBTQ resources, community & support in Fairfield County:

- Triangle Community Center: [ctpridecenter.org](http://ctpridecenter.org)

Hotlines:

- CT statewide domestic violence hotline: 1- 888-774-2900 (call/text)
- Anti-Violence Project (LGBTQ NYC based): 212-714-1141
- The Trevor Project (LGBTQ youth & young adults): 1-866-488-7386

