

**Laurel House**  
*is dedicated to  
the vision of  
ending domestic  
violence in each  
life, home and  
community.*

Laurel House  
PO Box 764  
Norristown, PA 19404

**Hotline:**  
**800.642.3150**

**Office:**  
**610.277.1860**

[www.laurel-house.org](http://www.laurel-house.org)

More information on domestic  
violence is available on the  
following websites:

[WWW.PCADV.ORG](http://WWW.PCADV.ORG)

[WWW.NCADV.ORG](http://WWW.NCADV.ORG)

For additional information  
about supportive services for  
victims of domestic violence  
of all ages, contact:

**Minna Davis, M.A. LPC**  
Director of Counseling &  
Supportive Services  
**610.277.1860 x 118**  
[mdavis@laurel-house.org](mailto:mdavis@laurel-house.org)

Copyright 2007, Laurel House

# COUNSELING

# SERVICES

**Laurel**  
**House**  
*Working to End  
Domestic Violence*



**24-hour Hotline**  
**800.642.3150**

## **WHAT IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNSELING?**

For adult women and men who are or were in an abusive relationship with an intimate partner, domestic violence counseling offers help to:

- Assess the lethality of the situation
- Focus on developing and implementing a safety plan
- Connect the victim/survivor with effective resources
- Provide emotional support
- Educate the victim/survivor about domestic violence

The abuse may be emotional, physical, spiritual, and/or sexual.

The counseling can be face-to-face with a counselor. Or, it can be in a support group for women with other abused women, facilitated by trained counselors. (At present we do not offer support groups for abused men.)

*Laurel House is a domestic violence program of Montgomery County, PA*

## **WHY WOULD ABUSED PERSONS SEEK OUT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COUNSELING?**

The scars of domestic abuse are usually deeper than those from other types of trauma. Prolonged abuse that occurs in the home, the place where we are supposed to feel safe, leaves a different kind of impact than other kinds of trauma. Brief or short-term counseling is usually not enough.

## **WHO ARE THE COUNSELORS?**

The counselors at Laurel House are human services professionals or master's level graduate students specially trained to address the issues unique to domestic violence. They will be sensitive to the needs of abused persons, providing a safe place for them to talk about their concerns and express their feelings without being judged.

## **WHAT ABOUT THE CHILDREN?**

The impact of domestic violence on children is a serious and, too often, an unaddressed concern.

Counselors and children's advocates are available to non-offending family members to help them assess the impact on the children and provide suggestions and resources to help them address their specific worries. In some cases, family counseling may be available.

For further information, call  
Minna Davis, M.A. LPC  
Director of Counseling &  
Supportive Services

**(610) 277-1860  
ext. 118**

**All services are  
free of charge and  
confidential.**