

VIP Services:

24-Hour Hotline

Rape Crisis Services

Individual Counseling and Support Groups

Legal Advocacy and Representation

Medical Advocacy and Accompaniment

Crime Victims Compensation Assistance

Domestic Violence Shelter

Housing Support Services

Information and Referrals

Prevention Education

Criminal Justice Trainings

Community Outreach

Services are available to any victim of crime. All services are free and confidential regardless of race, age, gender, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability.

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The leader in developing innovative solutions that promote healthy lives, thriving families, and caring communities



VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM

Opportunities For Otsego
3 West Broadway
Oneonta, NY 13820
www.ofoinc.org

This program is funded in part by:
U.S. Department of Justice, Office on Violence Against Women
New York State Department of Health
New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services
New York State Division for Youth
New York State Office of Children and Family Services
New York State Office of Victim Services
Otsego County Department of Social Services

Violence Intervention Program
24-Hour Hotline (voice/TTY)
607.432.4855

For more information contact OFO at:

607.433.8038 or
800.986.5463

Monday – Friday
8:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Violence Intervention Program



24-Hour Hotline | 607.432.4855

Domestic Violence Services, Rape Crisis Services,
& Crime Victims Assistance



What is Domestic Violence?

Domestic violence is a pattern of behavior that is used to gain or maintain power and control over an intimate partner or family member. Abuse includes physical, sexual, emotional, economic, or psychological actions or threats that frighten, intimidate, terrorize, manipulate, hurt, humiliate, blame, or physically injure someone.

Domestic violence can happen to anyone of any race, age, gender, religion, or sexual orientation. It occurs between couples who are married, living together, or dating and between other family members. Domestic violence affects people of all socioeconomic backgrounds and education levels.

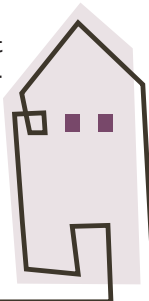
If you or a loved one are experiencing domestic violence and need support or help leaving, call the **Violence Intervention Program 24-Hour Hotline**

607.432.4855

Your Safety is Our Priority

Safety planning is a key service that the Violence Intervention Program offers. If you are thinking about fleeing an abusive situation, consider pre-packing and storing the following items in a safe location:

- Identification: Driver's license; Birth certificates; Social security cards; Passport; Work Permits/ Green Card/Visa
- Financial Information: Bank account information; Credit cards; Debit cards
- Legal Papers: Order of Protection, Divorce and custody papers; Marriage license
- Personal Records: Deed to your home or housing agreements; Car registration and insurance papers; Health and other insurance papers; Medical records; School records
- Other: Emergency money; Medications; Extra set of house and car keys; Address book, Pay-as-you-go cell phone; Valuables; Photos and sentimental items; Picture of abuser; Several changes of clothes for you and your children; Children's favorite toy or blanket



What is Sexual Assault?

Sexual assault occurs when a person purposefully touches another person in a sexual way without that person's consent, or coerces or physically forces a person to engage in a sexual act against their will. Sexual assault is a general term that includes rape, incest, child sexual abuse, sexual harassment, and indecent exposure. Sexual assault can happen to anyone, regardless of race, age, gender, religion, or sexual orientation.

In most sexual assault cases, the abuser is not a stranger, but someone the victim knows well or can identify. In cases of child sexual assault, incidents are typically not a single occurrence, but part of an ongoing pattern of abuse.

If you are sexually assaulted:

- DO seek medical attention as soon as possible
- DO NOT shower, bathe, change clothes, or brush your teeth before going to the hospital
- DO NOT blame yourself or the victim

If you suspect a child has been physically or sexually abused, call the police and the **Child Abuse Hotline**

800.342.3720

Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Are Crimes

Victims, or parents/guardians of minors, are encouraged to contact the police to report the abuse; however, that decision is up to the victim. If you choose not to contact the police, support is still available by calling the **Violence Intervention Program 24-Hour Hotline** at **607.432.4855**. VIP also offers services and support to friends and family members impacted by crime.

Crime Victims Compensation

If are an innocent victim of crime and have incurred lost earnings, medical expenses, loss or damage to personal property, or burial expenses you may be entitled to financial compensation. Contact the Violence Intervention Program for information and help in completing a compensation claim.

Advocacy

If you are the victim of domestic violence, sexual assault or the innocent victim of a crime, advocates from the Violence Intervention Program can help you understand your options and access the services and supports you need. Advocates also assist in navigating the criminal justice process, the court system, and the Department of Social Services (DSS) and are available to accompany you to court, hospitals, police stations, DSS and the Otsego County Child Advocacy Center. Advocates also provide support on the local college campuses for students, faculty, and staff impacted by interpersonal violence.

Community Education

Prevention education and general presentations on program services are available to community groups, businesses, churches, and colleges. Specialized training is available for law enforcement and court personnel.

School-age programs are available to students in all grades. Topics include healthy and unhealthy relationships, domestic/dating violence, sexual assault, bullying, bystander interventions, and internet safety. Programs can be modified to suit the needs and age of students.

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