DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES ON THE NHTI CAMPUS

What is Domestic Violence?

Domestic violence is a pattern of coercive behavior used by one person to gain and maintain power and control over another in the context of an intimate or familial relationship.

Domestic violence can happen to anyone – adult women and men, teenagers, people who are mentally and physically disabled, and the elderly – regardless of race, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, or economic status.

It may include:

- Physical violence
- Sexual violence
- Stalking
- Verbal, emotional, mental/psychological, and/or economic abuse
- Threats, pushing, punching, slapping, strangulation, shouting, and/or name-calling
- Harming or threatening to harm children or pets, and other violent or intimidating behaviors
- Isolation from family and friends
- Rarely a one-time occurrence, domestic violence usually escalates in frequency and severity over time.
- Abusers batter to control and dominate their partners

What do you do if you are in an abusive relationship?

In many cases the victim can assess the stalker's potential for violence. The Domestic Violence victim should be highly involved in choosing what actions need to be taken. Whatever steps are taken, the primary concern for everyone involved is the victim's safety.

- If you are in immediate danger:
 - Call 911 to notify law enforcement.
 - Contact Campus Safety:
 - A Code Blue Phone
 - Emergency line at 603-224-3287
 - Office line at 603-230-4042
- If you are not in immediate danger, contact:
 - Law enforcement
 - Contact Campus Safety:
 - A Code Blue Phone
 - Emergency line at 603-224-3287
 - Office line at 603-230-4042
- If you have been injured can seek medical treatment.
- You can tell family, friends, neighbors and co-workers about what has happened
- You can attend a support group for survivors of relationship abuse
- You can create a safety plan for whether you are leaving or staying in the relationship

 Information on Leaving an Abusive Relationship
- You should document everything:

- Save and date any threatening letters, voicemail messages, emails, and/or social media posts from the abuser, as these can be used for future legal action or can serve as evidence that an existing civil protection order was violated.
- Contact your telephone/wireless service provider to get an unlisted number, change your number, and to report threatening calls.
- Block or change social media account information to deny access to your abuser
 - Do not record any conversation without telling the abuser he or she is being recorded beforehand. It is illegal to record someone without his/her knowledge/consent and renders such evidence useless.
- When feasible, change the locks of your home and/or car.
- If you do not have a cellphone, consider obtaining one.
- Law enforcement agencies log complaints each time they receive a call. Request a copy of each report.

Obtaining a Domestic Violence Protection Order

If you would like to obtain a protection order against your abuser, you will need to contact the local district court where the abuse occurred. If you contact law enforcement, they can assist you with information on obtaining a protection order.

- Once you petition the court, you may be granted a temporary order of protection.
- You will be provided a hearing date.
- Protection orders should specify restrictions at NHTI if both parties are students.
- Obtain and keep copies of warrants, protective orders, court orders, and any other legal documentation.
- It is important for domestic violence victims to obtain any police report number, court docket, or file number of your complaint so you can follow up on the complaint.

Domestic Violence Services and Resources at NHTI

Dating Violence Services and Resources at NHTI

- Campus Safety may assist you in contacting law enforcement if you wish to report a dating violence incident, violation of a protection order and/or need information on obtaining a dating violence protection order.
- Domestic violence victims are encouraged to provide Campus Safety with any information regarding a dating violence incident/order and are only able to honor protection orders if a copy is on file with the department:
- Please provide Campus Safety with a photocopy of:
 - Bail conditions
 - Temporary and/or final protective dating violence orders
 - Photograph or physical description of the offender
- The Title IX office and/or Campus Safety may open a Title IX investigation if the CCSNH Sexual Misconduct Policy was violated. Please refer to the NHTI Title IX Resource Page for more information.
- Campus Safety will provide domestic violence victims with:
 - Alternative parking arrangements
 - Escorts on campus.
- Domestic violence victims should also be referred to NHTI Health and Counseling Services.
 - They will consult with any student who discloses they are a victim of domestic violence.

• Referral information for follow-up assistance will be provided.

Reporting Requirements by School Officials

Staff and faculty and those designated as Campus Security authorities who receive information that an individual is being abused are required to report it to the Title IX Coordinator or Campus Safety.

<u>NH RSA 169-C:29</u> requires victims of domestic violence who are under the age of 18 be reported to specific authorities.

<u>NH RSA 161-F:46</u> requires victims of domestic violence who are 18 years of age or older and is referred to under Division of Elderly and Adult Services guidelines as dependent on others to manage personal, home, or financial affairs or as a vulnerable person that it be reported to specific authorities.

Persons who do not fall into any of the categories, but are victims of domestic violence must be asked whether they object to having their injuries reported to the police.