

SUPPORT. ADVOCACY. PREVENTION.

LEGAL ADVOCACY

eliminating racism
empowering women

ywca



**ACCESS York &
Victim Assistance Center**

ACCESS York and Victim Assistance Center are dedicated to helping victims of domestic and sexual violence. Our Legal Advocacy Department strives to provide the legal support and services victims need. Legal advocates are **NOT** attorneys and may not provide legal advice. Services provided, include:

- Legal options, safety planning, support, and information
- Referrals to civil legal attorneys
- Assistance in completing a protection order (PFA, SVP, PFI) petitions
- Legal Advocacy and accompaniment to protective order proceedings, and criminal proceedings when available
- 24-Hour Hotline
- Assistance with Crime Victims' Compensation Forms
- Services are **FREE and CONFIDENTIAL**

For **Legal Advocacy** services please call:

717-771-9662 Judicial Center
717-846-5400 24-Hour Hotline
1-800-262-8444 Toll Free 24-Hour Hotline

NO ONE DESERVES TO BE ABUSED. NO ONE HAS THE RIGHT TO HIT YOU. YOU ARE NOT THE CAUSE OF ANYONE'S VIOLENCE.

Abuse under the P.F.A. Act is defined as:

- Causing or trying to cause physical harm—with or without a weapon
- Putting someone in fear of immediate and serious physical harm—including threats
- Rape or sexual assault
- Interfering with a person's freedom of movement
- Stalking

Types of Protection Orders:

- Protection from Abuse (PFA)
- Protection from Intimidation (PFI)
- Sexual Violence Protection (SVP)

The type of protective order you may qualify for will depend on the relationship between you and your abuser as well as the type of violence or threat perpetrated. A legal advocate will be able to discuss your situation with you and assist you in making a decision about what protection, if any, to apply for.

Safety Planning

Please call **ACCESS York** for assistance with safety planning. Here are some tips to keep in mind:

- Keep a list of important numbers
- Have an emergency kit with money, medical cards, checkbook, spare keys, birth certificates, and other form of identification
- Medications for you and/or children