

A Batterer...

- ...blames others for his/her own problems.
- ...is overly jealous & possessive.
- ...behaves unpredictably or explosively.
- ...cannot control anger.
- ... makes empty promises.
- ...uses intoxication as an excuse to batter.
- ...intimidates through looks or gestures.
- ...destroys others' property.
- ...hurts (or threatens to hurt) animals.
- ...isolates the victim from family and friends.
- ...may come from a family which uses violence to "solve" problems.
- ...controls all the money.
- ...uses guilt to manipulate ("If you loved me, you would...").
- ...uses the children to maintain control.

Important Numbers

.....	911
Bennington Police.....	442-1030
County Sheriff	442-4900
Family Court.....	447-2727
Family Emergency Services (FES) ..	442-8799
.....	24-hour crisis 442-1700
Manchester Police.....	362-2022
DCF (<i>child welfare</i>).....	442-8138
Hospital.....	442-6361
VT State Police	442-5421 or 362-3639
Winhall Police.....	297-2121

If you think you are in an abusive relationship,
call the PAVE Hotline:

802-442-2111

for free & confidential information.

Safety planning tips

Trust your judgment. Consider anything that will keep you safe and offer time to figure out what to do next. Sometimes it is best to flee, sometimes to pacify the abuser - anything that works to protect yourself and your children.

Know your escape route. Go to an area that has an exit, not a bathroom (near hard surfaces), kitchen (knives), or near any other weapons. Practice getting out of your home safely.

Devise a code word or signal... that subtly tells your children (or others) that you need police assistance.

Know where you're going. Plan where you will go if you have to leave home.

Get to a phone. If possible, call 911, a friend or a neighbor. If there are weapons in the home, let them know.

Have a bag packed and ready. Keep it hidden in a handy place so you can leave quickly. Or, if your abuser searches your home, leave a bag elsewhere. You may wish to include important papers such as birth certificates, social security cards, bank books, a copy of your restraining order, or any legal paperwork relating to child custody.

The mission of Project Against Violent Encounters (PAVE) is to end domestic and sexual violence and to provide supportive and educational services to individuals, families, and the community.

PAVE is an equal opportunity provider, and employer.

*When the terror of
domestic violence or
sexual assault strikes...*

PAVE
is there to help.

Project Against Violent Encounters serves
Bennington County and surrounding area

Services are free and confidential

24-Hour Emergency Hotline

802-442-2111

or Toll Free
1-800-228-7395

Project Against Violent Encounters

P.O. Box 227
Bennington, VT 05201

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Collect Calls Accepted
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Questions & Answers About PAVE

What is domestic violence?

Domestic violence is a pattern of behavior used by an individual to gain and maintain control over another. This behavior can include verbal, physical, emotional, sexual and financial abuse.

If this is happening to me, what can I do?

You can call PAVE on our 24-hour hotline. A PAVE-trained volunteer will listen to your story, explain what options are available to you, and support you in achieving your goals.

What happens when I call the hotline?

Our hotline is connected to an answering service that takes your first name and telephone number. The answering service then contacts the advocate on call, who immediately contacts you. PAVE services can be used as often as needed.

What services does PAVE provide?

PAVE offers information and support to victims and survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.

We can assist in obtaining a protective order or accompany a person to the police station, court or appropriate social service agency. *We do not provide legal advice or counseling.* We offer options and support our clients' *choices*.

* We have access to shelters across the country.

* We offer support groups for battered women and survivors of sexual assault.

*Our supervised visitation program provides children with a safe way to spend time with non-residential parents.

*Our youth education program provides violence prevention courses for students, and includes topics such as respect, conflict resolution, and healthy relationships.

*We offer community education services. Presentations are tailored to the needs of a school, organization or group.

Is there anything I can do if I know someone who is being abused?

YES! If you witness the abuse you can call the police to ensure the safety of the victim. If someone discloses abuse, you can believe the person and offer assistance in contacting PAVE. By supporting the victim in a time of need you can help break the cycle of abuse.

Are there any fees for PAVE services?

Services provided by PAVE are absolutely free. This assures that our services remain 100% accessible to every individual throughout our service area.

What about confidentiality?

We respect the confidentiality of every individual who requests assistance from PAVE.

What can I do to help?

Most of the services provided by PAVE require the assistance of trained volunteers. Volunteers are the lifeblood of our organization and we always have room for one more dedicated person! If you would like to become a volunteer, please contact our office to discuss available opportunities. We are a non-profit organization that appreciates the financial support of individuals and organizations throughout our service area.

Donations are tax-deductible.

24-hour hotline 802-442-2111

Use our services as often as you need or want.

How PAVE can help:

24-hour Crisis Hotline
Emergency Housing
Transitional Services
Supervised Visitation
Nurturing Parenting Classes
Advocacy and Referrals
Probation & Parole-based Advocacy
Case Management
Peer Support
Community Education and Outreach
School-based Violence Prevention