

# What is Domestic Violence?

**Domestic Violence** is a pattern of behaviors used by one partner to maintain **power** and **control** over another partner in an intimate relationship.

**Domestic Violence** affects people of all genders, sexualities, races, religions, and income brackets, including **1 in 3 women** and **1 in 4 men**.

**Domestic Violence** is not just physical; these behaviors can be emotional, financial, sexual, digital, coercion, and other tactics utilized over time. The abuser slowly isolates their partner to increase reliance on him or her.

*This can look like:*

- Degrading and shaming, especially in public
- Extreme jealousy
- Accusations of infidelity without basis
- Controlling financial decisions
- Blaming for the abuser's behavior
- Coerced and forced sexual interactions
- Pressure to use alcohol and drugs
- Threats of intimidation and retaliation

Those experiencing domestic violence may stay in the relationship due to fear, belief that the abuse is normal or deserved, embarrassment or shame, love for their partner, cultural or religious reasons, language barriers or immigration status, lack of money or resources.

This guide outlines resources related to mental health, safety planning, housing, legal, and advocacy to educate, empower, and reduce the power that domestic violence has on our residents.

**YOU ARE NOT ALONE.**

Source: [www.thehotline.org](http://www.thehotline.org)

There is **HOPE** for those affected by domestic violence.

Contact **Safe+Sound Somerset's 24-hour Call/Text Hotline** for support, information, and resources:

**(866) 685-1122**

**YOU ARE NOT ALONE.**



Please call the **Office of Operations & Planning** at **(908) 704-6300** if you have questions about resources not listed in this brochure or to report updated information.

# STOP

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.**

Sponsored by the  
**Somerset County Board of County Commissioners**

Information & Resources for

## Somerset County Residents

**SOMERSET COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES**

Office of Operations and Planning  
27 Warren Street  
Somerville, NJ 08876  
(908) 704-6300



## Domestic Violence Resources

### Safe+Sound Somerset

**Safe+Sound Somerset** is the domestic violence agency serving Somerset County residents. They offer 24-hour access to a confidential, safe house for adult and child victims of domestic violence. A separate safe house location for male victims of domestic violence is available.

Contact the **24-hour Call/Text Hotline** for shelter services screening at **(866) 685-1122**. In case of emergency contact **911**.

The following programs are also offered by **Safe+Sound Somerset**:

- Individual and Group Counseling for Adults.
- Supportive Listening Groups.
- Youth Programs to Support Healing and to End the Cycle of Violence.
- Family Therapy with the non-offending parent.
- Transitional Housing program for persons leaving emergency housing services
- Accompaniment at Police Stations by Domestic Violence Response Team (DVRT) Volunteers to provide support and information when incidents occur.
- Sexual Assault Response Team: 24-hour responding service providing an advocate to a police station or Robert Wood Johnson Somerset to provide support following an assault.
- Legal Advocacy program provides safety planning assistance, accompaniment to court, advocacy with law enforcement, court personnel and legal services, information about domestic violence law, legal clinics and pro bono individual consultations conducted by volunteer attorneys, and referrals to further law services if applicable.
- Community Education: professional trainings, public presentations, and education for youth.

## Richard Hall Community Health & Wellness Center

500 North Bridge Street  
Bridgewater, NJ 08807  
(908) 725-2800  
[soco.gov/RichardHall](http://soco.gov/RichardHall)



*Counseling for youth and adult victims of domestic violence. **OPTIONS** Program for male and female perpetrators of domestic abuse seeking to end their abusive behaviors.*

### Family & Community Services of Somerset County

339 W. Second Street  
Bound Brook, NJ 08805  
(732) 356-1082

*Counseling for youth and adult victims of domestic violence. **RESPECT** Program for male perpetrators of domestic abuse seeking to end their abusive behaviors.*

### Legal Services of Northwest Jersey

90 East Main Street  
Somerville, NJ 08876  
(908) 231-0840  
[www.lsnj.org](http://www.lsnj.org)

*Free legal representation for a limited number of low-income victims of domestic violence. Referrals made by **Safe+Sound Somerset** or contact **Legal Services of Northwest Jersey** directly.*

### Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy Somerset County Prosecutor's Office

40 North Bridge Street  
Somerville, NJ 08876  
(908) 575-3359

Services to ease victims' participation in the criminal justice process.

### Other Abuse Resources Child Protection & Permanency

75 Veterans Memorial Drive E.  
Somerville, NJ 08876  
(908) 704-3050

Investigations of reports of child abuse and neglect, and arrangement for child protection and family treatment. Call **(877) 652-2873** to report child abuse.

### Adult Protective Services Somerset County Board of Social Services

73 East High Street  
Somerville, NJ 08876  
(908) 526-8800

Investigations within 72 hours of reports of abuse of persons 18 years and older who are unable to act in their own best interest; assistance in obtaining protective orders; and case management and referrals.

Contact the **Department of Human Services** for more information on services and needs including housing, legal, mental health, etc.