

Programs & Services

50
YEARS OF

Women's Center & Shelter
of Greater Pittsburgh

WC&S staff provides help and hope to over 7,000 survivors of domestic violence each year. To uphold our pledge of protecting and supporting all survivors and their children all services are free, confidential, and available in person or virtually (depending on the service).

Hotline Services



Our hotline is available 24/7 and text & chat services are available from 9a-5p, Mon-Fri. Trained advocates provide support, safety planning, options, and connection to services and resources to anyone who has experienced domestic violence (DV) from a current or former partner or those concerned about a loved one or coworker.

Emergency Shelter



WC&S' Emergency Shelter provides safety for adults and children in immediate, lethal danger. Services include safety planning, goal planning, and advocacy for housing, career, health, mental health, and other needs. WC&S provides all basic essentials so that families can begin their journeys of healing. On-site housing for pets is also available.

Children's Advocacy Program (CAP)



Our Children's Advocacy Program (CAP) provides a safe, welcoming, culturally competent, and nurturing space where child survivors of DV can heal from trauma. Our goal is to help children explore their feelings in an open and positive environment, while their parent takes time to heal and address housing, employment, and other needs to rebuild their lives.

Legal Advocacy & Civil Law Project (CLP)



Our non-attorney legal advocates help survivors navigate the justice system by providing court accompaniment, safety planning, emotional support, and connection to resources. Civil Law Project attorneys represent qualifying WC&S clients, providing free representation in cases involving Protection From Abuse (PFA) orders, child custody, spousal support, and divorce.

Wellness Team



The Wellness Team provides inclusive support and counseling services to domestic violence survivors to foster hope, resilience, and healing. Support groups help survivors to tell their stories and grow stronger through shared experiences. Therapy is also available for survivors who are interested in exploring their trauma in a more individualized way.

Education & Outreach



WC&S delivers training and presentations on DV awareness and dating violence prevention to students in middle school through college, criminal justice professionals, human service providers, clergy members, corporations, and other professional groups.

Programs & Services *continued*

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The mission of WC&S is to **strengthen** our ability to meet the individual and evolving needs of those affected by domestic violence by **investing** in the growth of our people, **deepening** community engagement, and **amplifying** the voices of all survivors.

Refugees, Immigrants & Limited-English Speakers (RIL)

This specialized team includes multilingual staff members who work at two levels – assisting individual clients on-site and in the community, and advocating improvements in systems to better serve RIL clients.



Children, Youth, & Families (CYF)



Children, Youth, & Families (CYF) Specialists train, consult with, and coach CYF caseworkers who serve families experiencing intimate partner violence with a co-occurrence of child abuse or neglect. They provide individual and group services to adult survivors, including safety strategies, court accompaniment, case management, resources, provider relations, and more.

Immediate Needs Coordination (INC)



Our Immediate Needs Coordinators meet the urgent emotional, psychological, and physical health & safety needs of clients who are not staying in Shelter or have left Shelter. The INC Program also assists survivors with meeting their basic needs, such as transportation, housing, utility, food, and more.

Medical Advocacy



The Medical Advocacy Team works closely with area hospitals, clinics, and doctor's offices to provide patient advocacy and crisis intervention, educational resources, and hands-on training. They serve as a liaison between healthcare professionals and WC&S clients to advocate for their healthcare and health insurance needs, in addition to helping clients to locate medical providers.

MENS Group



The MENS Group is for men who need help with changing their violent and abusive behaviors. This community-based program offers education and tools to help those who use abuse understand and take accountability for their actions and learn tools to help them develop healthier communication and relationships.

STANDING FIRM



STANDING FIRM, a national program of WC&S, equips employers to respond to domestic violence and is a critical link for a survivor to reach a life of safety. By empowering employers through consultation and training, STANDING FIRM is changing workplace culture and systems so that survivors may move toward financial independence, and closer to a life free from abuse.

High Danger Initiative



WC&S works in a specialized fashion with survivors who are assessed to be most at-risk for being killed by their partner or ex-partner. High-danger survivors who are identified by the courts and WC&S receive emergency, multi-departmental and multi-organizational case management to meet their immediate safety and other needs.