

Domestic Violence Initiative for women with disabilities

I would like to donate \$_____ to help you continue your work.

Please send me more information.

I would like an inservice or presentation for our group.

I would like to help by donating my services.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Mail to:

Domestic Violence Initiative

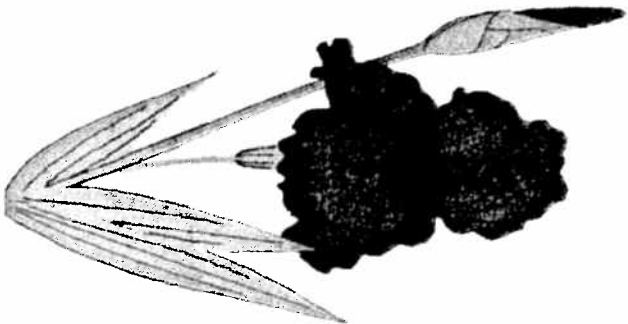
P.O. Box 300535

Denver Co. 80203

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DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INITIATIVE

for
women
with
disabilities



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INITIATIVE for women with disabilities

Domestic violence is the most widespread, most under-reported crime in America. 92% of respondents rated abuse and violence as their number one issue. The judicial system, psychological factors, and limited resources for shelters and counseling have prevented women from receiving the kind of help they need and deserve. While public awareness of the issues involving domestic violence has recently grown, the issues unique to women with disabilities who are in domestic violence situations remains hidden. Women with disabilities are less likely to report abuse because they often:

- ❑ Have limited job opportunities and lack the means with which to support themselves independently;
- ❑ Lack shelter, housing options or transportation;
- ❑ May experience extreme isolation fostered by society's attitudes of segregation;
- ❑ And because the experience of having a disability significantly impacts her ability to become and remain socially and economically independent.

The Domestic Violence Initiative provides comprehensive domestic violence advocacy, education, empowerment and accessibility for women with disabilities

Mission

To create, promote and support viable alternatives for women with disabilities who are victims / survivors of domestic violence or caretaker abuse.

- One out of every 5 women has a disability and disabled women are more likely to be abused
- The safety of women with disabilities is often jeopardized because information, resources, and services that address their needs are scarce.
- Abuse of women with disabilities may be as high as 85%
- The number of women sustaining permanent disabilities from domestic violence increases every year.

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INITIATIVE
for women with disabilities**

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A nonprofit organization founded in 1985, the **Domestic Violence Initiative for women with disabilities** believes that education, awareness and knowledge of the issues facing those victimized will help prevent society's discrimination and subsequent victimization.

Our purpose and goals are to assist women with disabilities who have experienced domestic violence or caretaker abuse through:

- ♥ peer support, education and awareness, resources, self advocacy, and other relevant services;
- ♥ Mainstreaming our clients into already existing services;
- ♥ Advocating for the elimination of the physical and attitudinal barriers that lead to revictimization;
- ♥ Serving as liaison via networking between women with disabilities and the myriad of community agencies;
- ♥ Fostering unity and growth through sharing experience with others to reduce isolation;
- ♥ Present training and technical assistance to service providers and to the general community, as well as disability rights groups.