

VOLUNTEER SERVICES FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Sherry Nielsen
Volunteer Program Specialist
Gilbert Police Department

Volunteers and DV

- * Victims and Volunteers
- * Training the Volunteer
- * Volunteer Safety
- * From Victim to Survivor

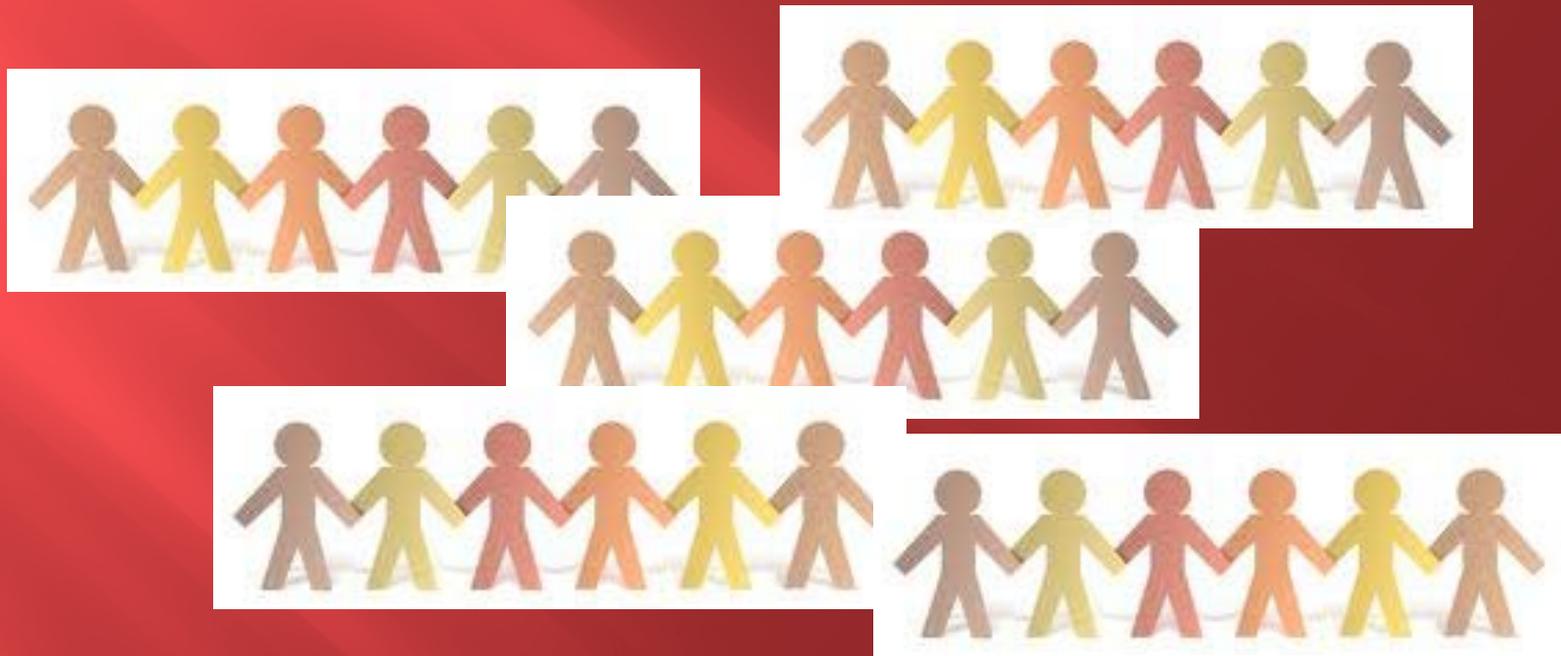
Victims and Volunteers



Victims and Volunteers

- * Gender
- * Age
- * Culture
- * Family Dynamic
- * Social status
- * Economic status
- * Life experiences and opportunities
- * Disabilities

Victims and Volunteers



People are people...

Training the Volunteer



Training the Volunteer

- * Communication
 - * Clear
 - * Concise
 - * Compassionate

Training the Volunteer

- * Educate the Victim

- * Do not try to:

- * Convince the victim

- * Persuade the victim

- * Coerce the victim

Training the Volunteer

- * Scenarios

- * Actual events / real people

- * Role-play

Training the Volunteer

* On-scene

* With an experienced volunteer

* With responsibilities



Training the Volunteer

- * Be aware of Stereotypes!
 - * Males are abused by females
 - * Parents are abused by their children
 - * Many more possibilities...

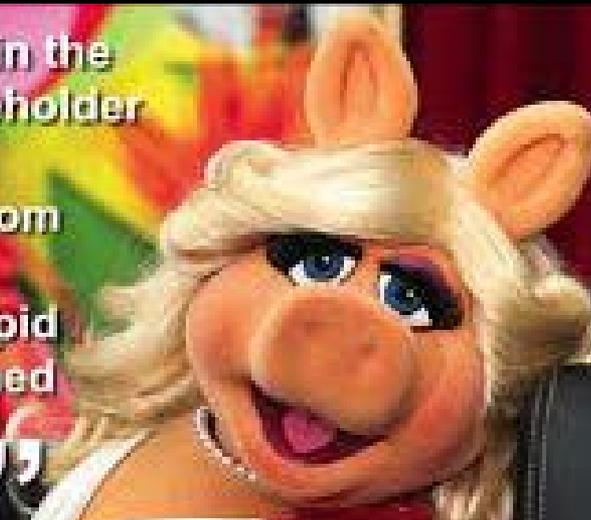
Training the Volunteer



Training the Volunteer

“ Beauty is in the
eye of the beholder
& it may be
necessary from
time to time
to give a stupid
or misinformed
beholder
a black eye. ”

- Miss Piggy



Training the Volunteer



Volunteer Safety

Officer Down: nationwide, since 1996, about 100 law enforcement officers have been killed in the line of duty responding to DV calls

Volunteer Safety

Volunteers should never respond to, or stay at, the scene of a domestic violence incident without an officer present and near

Volunteer Safety

- *Be aware of surroundings
- *Ask questions
- *Know where exits are located

DV Victim Opportunities for Assistance

- * Victim Assistance dispatched to the scene
- * Victim Advocate makes referral for victim
- * Offender is convicted and referred for treatment, victim is contacted

DV Victim Opportunities for Assistance

~ Gilbert Youth & Adult Resources ~

- * **Counselor/Victim Assistance** dispatched to the scene
for emotionally distraught victims
- * **Officer provides Community Assistance Card** and referral to GYAR
- * **DV reports are reviewed** and a counselor contacts victim
- * **Letter sent to victim offering counseling**
- * **Victim Advocate makes referral** for victim
- * **Offender is convicted** and referred to GYAR, victim is contacted by a counselor

From Victim to Survivor

*Empowerment

*Self Respect

*HOPE



HOPE

HERE