



South Carolina Family and Community Leaders

affiliated with

National Volunteer Outreach Network

Country Women's Council, U.S.A.

Associated Country Women of the World

in partnership with Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service

SCFCL website: scfcl.com

SCFCL
gives **Hope**
Domestic Violence Awareness

2020 State Project SCFCL Gives Hope Report Form

In South Carolina an average of 36,000 assaults are reported to law enforcement every year. In 2014, South Carolina was the state with the highest number of women killed by men, and has been in the top ten states EVERY year for the past twenty years (Violence Policy Center). In a 2017 report of 2015 deaths, South Carolina ranked 5th in domestic violence deaths. The SC homicide rate for women killed by men has been TWICE the national average.

What to expect when going to a women's shelter or safe house: Every shelter and safe housing program is different, but the following is generally what you can expect:

- **Safe, private location.** Shelters and safe housing programs make everyone's safety their first priority. You may be asked to keep the location a secret.
- **No fees.** Shelters and safe housing programs are **free**.
- **Transportation.** Most programs will provide transportation to a shelter or safe housing program. Many also offer residents bus tokens and transportation to appointments.
- **Children's safety.** Children are also impacted by domestic violence. Advocates will be able to work with both you and your children offering support, information and parenting resources. Domestic violence programs are mandated reporters of child abuse.
- **Self-provided childcare.** Your children will be under your watch and care at all times. Childcare may be provided during groups and other activities.
- **Confidentiality.** Your information will be private and will not be shared with other agencies unless you give your written permission. You will be asked to honor the privacy of other program participants by not discussing their names or situations with anyone else.
- **Food, clothing, and toiletries.** Shelters and safe housing programs will provide basic necessities for you and your family **at no cost**.
- **Sleeping arrangements.** You may share common areas and might be asked to share a bedroom. In most shelters you will share the kitchen, common living areas, and bathrooms with other residents.
- **Laundry facilities.** Shelters and safe housing programs usually have laundry facilities and provide guests with linens (sheets, towels and blankets).

These shelters rely on the generosity of individuals, businesses, faith communities, foundations and civic groups to sustain and improve the programs and services they provide.

“SCFCL Gives Hope” brings awareness to our members of the need for domestic violence shelters and gives hope to those who enter them by showing them that they are not alone and that there are those who are willing to stand by them and help them in their time of need. We are collecting and giving needed items to domestic violence victims in our state through local women’s shelters. The following women’s shelters have been selected in each district for members to donate items to:

Central District

Sistercare: Located in Columbia, South Carolina. Sistercare seeks to provide comprehensive services for victims of domestic violence and their children and to advocate on behalf of these survivors, and to help prevent domestic violence through community awareness and education.

www.sistercare.org

Counties Served

Fairfield County, Kershaw County, Lexington County, Newberry County, Richland County

Coastal District

Hopeful Horizons: Located in Beaufort, South Carolina. Hopeful Horizons is a children's advocacy, domestic violence and rape crisis center. Together, we create safer communities by changing the culture of violence and offering a path to healing. www.hopefulhorizons.org

Counties Served

Beaufort County, Colleton County, Hampton County, Jasper County

Foothills District

Safe Harbor, Inc.: Located in Greenville, South Carolina. The mission statement of Safe Harbor is: To provide a continuum of services for victims of domestic violence and their children and to eliminate cultural acceptance of domestic violence through a coordinated community response, prevention and education. www.safeharborsc.org

Counties Served

Anderson County, Greenville County, Oconee County, Pickens County

For those who do not wish to donate to these shelters, I am providing a list of other shelters in the State of South Carolina and the Counties that they serve or you can contact your local Sheriff’s department and inquire as to what is available in your county and what needs they have. To insure that we give each County credit for items donated, I have attached a form to be filled out by each County when they donate items.

Items needed in each shelter are as follows:

Young children count on their caregivers to make the world a safe place and they believe their caregivers will be successful in this task. Children are therefore hard-wired to run to their caregivers if they feel terrified. The problem with domestic violence is that children end up in a situation where they feel terrified but they can't go to their caregivers for safety. This can cause them to doubt that the world is a safe place, and if they doubt it, they will not be able to explore and discover the world in the manner they need to developmentally. They also may not interact with others in positive ways because of the interference of some of the traumatic symptoms that arise in stressful situations. Living in shelter may be stressful in and of itself, given the fact that the family has been uprooted in a situation of crisis and danger. The combination of experiencing trauma and being in shelter may be especially challenging for both children and their caregivers.

Children's Needs (New)

- Bags for welcome gifts for girls and boys of varying age
- Small Books
- Small Coloring books
- Crayons
- Lip Balm or Gloss
- Small car or Truck toys
- Fancy Pens
- Diaries
- Puzzles
- Jewelry
- Action Figures
- Hair clips and elastic bands
- Basketballs, footballs, soccer balls and baseballs

Personal Care Items (New)

- Bags for personal care items
- Sanitary Napkins and Tampons
- Nail Polish Remover
- Nail Clippers
- Nail Polish
- Emory Boards
- Unopened full-sized toiletries
- Wash cloths
- Deodorant
- Toothbrush
- Tooth Paste
- Hairbrush
- Combs
- Hand Sanitizer
- Lip Gloss or lip balm

For our members who love to sew- the bags for personal items as made for the 2018 State Conference would be GREAT or blankets of all sizes are also needed so these could be made and donated.

Other items you may wish to donate are as follows:

- Baby bath products
- Baby wipes
- Baby Diapers
- Bath Towels
- Board Games
- Cleaning Agents (Ajax, etc.)
- Gas Cards
- Gift Cards
- Nonperishable food
- Paper Towels
- Pillows
- School Supplies
- Sheets (Twin & Double)
- Toilet Paper
- Trash Bags
- Wash Cloths
- Washing Detergent (cloths and dish)