

**ADDRESSING DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE & SEXUAL
ASSAULT**

The Health Department is committed to improving community safety and well-being through identifying and preventing family violence and sexual assault.

The Health Department supports many initiatives to improve response and prevent future violence, including:

- *Healthy Start & WIC Domestic Violence Screening*
- *The Blueprint for Safety*
- *Harmony House Supervised Visitation Center*
- *Sexual Assault Response Team*
- *Domestic Violence Advisory Committee*

*Help for victims of
domestic violence is
available:*

**LOUISIANA DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
HOTLINE 1-888-411-1333**
Call 24/7 for information and help.

**NEW ORLEANS
FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER
504-592-4005**
*Counseling, safety planning, legal
services, support groups,
victim compensation assistance,
transportation, and other services.*

CALL 911 IN AN EMERGENCY.

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**311
For More Information**



**Family
Violence
Prevention**

*Helping people
live to their
fullest potential.*



CITY OF NEW ORLEANS
1300 Perdido St.
New Orleans, LA 70112

The Blueprint for Safety

When a domestic violence victim calls 911, the response to the call can be complex. The police, sheriff, state attorneys, courts, and probation may all get involved in the process.

The *Blueprint Project* helps these partners to work together under one coordinated policy.

The *Blueprint* policy is based on these principles:¹

- We have to hold batterers accountable for hurting family members
- We have to support victims during the criminal justice response
- Since domestic violence is a repeated crime, we have to support victims over time
- We have to build attention to risk and danger into our response
- Our response should reflect the needs of *all* communities in New Orleans

Healthy Start & WIC Domestic Violence Screening

Pregnant mothers face serious risks from domestic violence — murder is the number three killer of pregnant women.²

The Health Department is screening mothers in its *Healthy Start* and *WIC* programs for domestic violence. All mothers will be given information on domestic violence and local groups that can help survivors.

Spotlight on Services:

Harmony House is a supervised visitation center.

If domestic violence has been an issue, and parents are not together, *Harmony House* is:

- A place for families to bring children for visits or exchanges
- Where law enforcement officers help keep visits safe

For more information call:
(504)827-8539

Sexual Assault Response Team “SART”

The Health Department is co-leading the development of a sexual assault response team in New Orleans.

Our “SART” will focus on:

- Improving the response to sexual assault through training and increased coordination
- Expanding the scope of services for survivors to reach *all* communities in New Orleans
- Holding offenders accountable for sexual assault

Domestic Violence Advisory Committee

The *Domestic Violence Advisory Committee* coordinates the City’s response to domestic violence.

Service providers and experts meet monthly to identify needs and solve problems.

¹ The *Blueprint* is a research-based, model policy developed by Praxis International with support from the Office on Violence Against Women. For more information on the Blueprint and the research supporting this project http://www.praxisinternational.org/praxis_blue_print_for_safety.aspx

² CDC research: Chang, Jeani, et al. “Homicide: A Leading Cause of Injury Deaths Among Pregnant & Postpartum Women in the U.S., 1991-1999.” *Am. J. Public Health* Vol. 95 No. 3 (2005): 471-477.