



## Our Philosophy

The Basic premise of The Umbrella program is that all persons have the right to live free from violence and fear, especially in their own homes.

The Umbrella program provides...

- Walk-in Crisis Center
- 24 hour Hotline
- Temporary Shelter
- Children's Services
- Support Groups
- Family Violence Victim Advocate
- Bi-Lingual Case Advocacy
- Legal Aid Liaison for DV Cases
- Community Education
- Dove Education Program
- Restraining Order Assistance

The D.O.V.E. program is made possible thanks to a **Verizon Grant**

Special Thanks To:  
**Safehaven –**  
A Sister  
Domestic Violence  
Program

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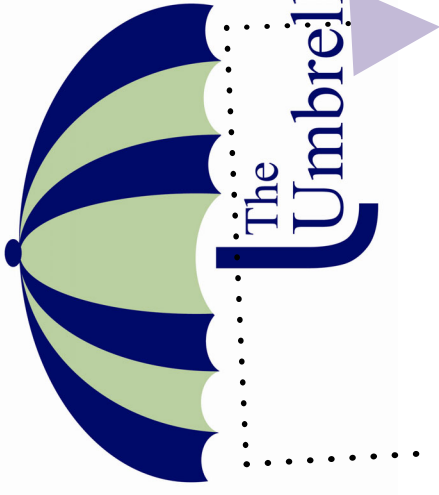
The Umbrella program is partially funded by the Office of Victim Services

*The Umbrella is a program of:*



**BIRMINGHAM GROUP  
Health Services, Inc.**

For more information, visit: [www.bghealth.org](http://www.bghealth.org)



# D.O.V.E.

**Developing  
Options for  
Victim's  
Education**

**WORKING  
TOGETHER**  
for a safer community

# Domestic Violence Education

The Umbrella offers educational classes for women who are involved with DCF or have been arrested due to domestic violence. Classes are offered as eight-week sessions, meeting on Wednesdays from 9:30 am to 11:00 am, at 435 East Main Street, Ansonia.

The Umbrella does not mandate participants to attend classes, but participants will be expected to sign a release of their information to allow verification of their attendance to referrers. Attendance



*Violence in the home affects the family and the community*

verification sheets are completed at the end of each class. Completion certificates are distributed when participants have attended a total of eight class sessions.

Due to the fact that participants may join the class at any time during the eight week session, the dates on their completion certificate may be out of sequence. Participants may make up the classes they missed during the next cycle of classes. Class cycles

consist of eight consecutive weeks followed by a two-week break before the next eight-week session.

## Class Description

The purpose of domestic violence classes are to educate and provide informative choices for women involved in relationships that are effected by domestic violence. Referrals to classes are made from Court and DCF to The Umbrella program.

- Protective Orders, Temporary Restraining Orders
- Victims' Rights
- Safety
- Available Services / Community Resources

## Class Methods

In some situations there are family violence dual arrests or there is domestic violence present in the home with no arrest but DCF has an open case. The D.O.V.E classes use videos, handouts, and group discussions to provide an overview of domestic violence to assist the women in discerning their own situations and in safety planning for their and their children's futures.

## Class Topics

The D.O.V.E. program covers the following topics during each eight-week session:

- Identifying Domestic Violence and Its Components
- Understanding the Cycle of Domestic Violence
- Effects of Domestic Violence on Children and Its Impact on Families
- Dynamics of Relationships
- Control Tactics Used by Abusers
- Recognizing Emotional and Verbal Abuse
- Anger Versus Control
- Question and Answer Session with Police Officer



## To Register for D.O.V.E. Classes:

D.O.V.E. classes are forming now, to register, or for more information, contact The Umbrella at: **(203)736-9944** today!