
As long as we regard our disabilities as tragedies, we will be pitied.

As long as we feel ashamed of who we are, our lives will be regarded as useless.

As long as we remain silent, we will be told by others what to do."

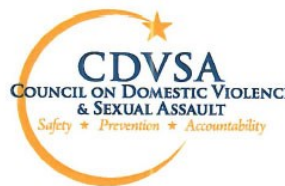
Adolf Ratzka 2005

It's not the disability that defines you, it's how you deal with the challenges the disability presents you with. We have an obligation to the abilities we DO have, not the disability.

Jim Abbot (from the Independent Living Center brochure)

The LeeShore Center and Independent Living Center are committed to helping persons who experience disabilities and who are victims of interpersonal violence.

Let us know how we can help you.



Independent Living Center:
<http://www.peninsulailc.org/>

The LeeShore Center:
<http://www.leeshoreak.org/>

Council on Domestic Violence Sexual Assault
<http://www.dps.state.ak.us/cdvs/default.aspx>

UAA Center for Human Development DART
<http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/centerforhumandevlopment/alaskansspeakup/dartak.cfm>

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**DART
DISABILITY ABUSE
RESPONSE TEAM**

DART DISABILITY ABUSE RESPONSE TEAM

a Multi-disciplinary group aiding people who experience disabilities and who have been victims of domestic violence/sexual assault.



For information or assistance contact:

The LeeShore Center:
Tel: 907-283-9479
Crisis Line: 907-283-7257

Independent Living Center:
907-262-6333

People with Disabilities

Collaborative Efforts

Facts about Domestic Violence

Domestic violence, also known as intimate partner violence, is a pattern of coercive behavior that is used by one person to gain power over another person. It may include the use of physical and sexual violence, verbal and emotional abuse, stalking and economic abuse.

Prevalence of Violence

Members of certain groups have unique vulnerabilities when experiencing domestic violence. Members of specific populations may be harmed by behaviors when non-members would not. It is important to note that members of specific populations are subject to all forms of abuse as experienced by general populations.

Individuals with Disabilities:

Multiple small-scale, but few large-scale studies, exist about domestic violence against individuals with disabilities, particularly in the United States. Existing small-scale studies report that nearly 40% of women with disabilities report being victims of domestic violence, a percentage far higher than the general population (Nosek & Howland, 1998). Acts of domestic violence against individuals with disabilities include withholding needed medications and assistive technologies.

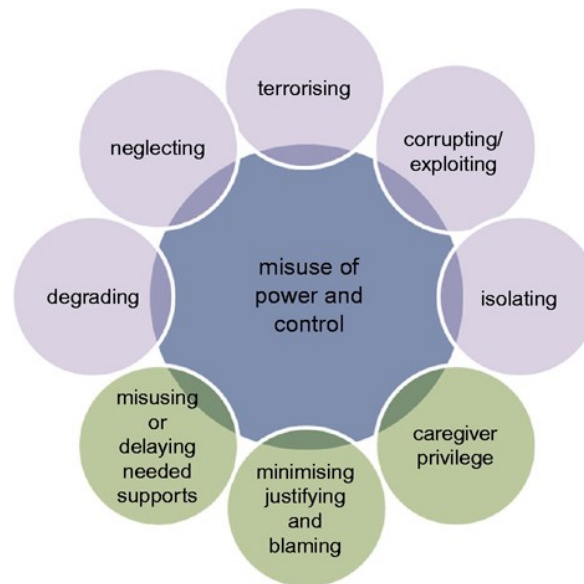
Significant barriers to reporting exist, which include fear of losing a caregiver, inability to verbally communicate as a result of a disability, and fear of not being taken seriously, among others.

Info from: <http://www.vaw.umn.edu>

The key to effective social action is collaboration. Addressing violence against people with disabilities requires a shared commitment and a coordinated response from the entire community, including: government, local business, law enforcement, judicial system, education system, health care providers, social services, non-profit agencies, individuals with disabilities, etc.



DART meetings are held in conjunction with the *Central Peninsula Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Task Force* every other month. If you would like to be involved contact The LeeShore Center at 283-9479 for date and time of the next meeting.



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