DOMESTIC ABUSE SURVIVORS CALWORKS IS HERE TO HELP

WHAT COUNTS AS DOMESTIC ABUSE?

- Physical acts of violence
- Threats of physical violence
- Sexual abuse or threats to you or your children
- Mental or emotional abuse
- Being starved or not allowed medical care
- Being stalked or harassed
- Being isolated

The person who abuses you may be an intimate partner, someone you know, or a stranger.

WILL MY INFORMATION BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL?

The County must always protect your confidentiality. You will have opportunity to self-identify and disclose domestic abuse in a private non-threatening setting.

Domestic abuse information will <u>not</u> be shared with any outside party, other government agency, or any HSA employee who is not directly involved in your case unless disclosure is required by law, or a written release of information is signed and submitted by you.

HOW DO I PROVE I HAVE BEEN A VICTIM OF DOMESTIC ABUSE?

Your statement under penalty of perjury is enough proof of abuse. Other ways to support your statement include:

- Police reports or court records
- Statements from a church, medical provider, or other professional who has helped you deal with the abuse
- Sworn statements from anyone who has witnessed or otherwise knows about the abuse.

Abused undocumented immigrants or non-U.S. citizens may still be able to get cash assistance.

WHAT IF THE DOMESTIC ABUSE KEEPS ME FROM DOING WHAT I AM SUPPOSED TO DO TO GET BENEFITS?

The County should not punish you or put your family at risk of being abused. You may ask to be excused from some requirements. This is called a waiver. The County will let you know how long the requirements can be waived.

SOME PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS THE COUNTY MAY BE ABLE TO WAIVE INCLUDE:

- Time limits on getting cash assistance
- Welfare-To-Work (WTW) program participation
- Establishing paternity
- Requirement that a teen parent live with an adult
- Homeless Assistance

You will need to show connection between domestic abuse and the need for a waiver. You may be required to participate in activities to overcome the domestic abuse problems that keep you from working.

Non-citizens who are eligible for CalWORKs, are eligible for the domestic abuse waivers. Your CalWORKs eligibility worker or Employment Services case manager can provide you with information on applying for legal status for non-citizen abuse victims.

Once a waiver has been granted the County must review the waiver determination every three (3) months, and as your needs change.

WHAT IF THE COUNTY WON'T GIVE ME A WAIVER EVEN THOUGH I THINK I NEED ONE?

You have the right to ask the State for a hearing if you think you need a waiver and the County refuses one. Instructions for filing a hearing are included with any notice about your cash assistance. Your worker can also help you file a hearing. You may get free legal help from your local legal aid office (call 2-1-1 for the nearest office).

YOUR WTW EMPLOYMENT PLAN WILL INCLUDE HELP FOR DOMESTIC ABUSE RELATED NEEDS.

If you are receiving cash assistance and you are required to participate in CalWORKs WTW employment activities, an Employment Services worker will work with you to develop an individual employment plan. The goal of this plan will be to help you overcome your obstacles to employment so you can become self-sufficient.

The counseling, treatment, and legal services you need to help you overcome these obstacles will become part of your employment plan and count toward your participation requirements.

WHERE CAN I GET HELP?

Your CalWORKs eligibility worker or Employment Services case manager can help you find the services you need. Call or visit your nearest Job & Career Center or Community Service Center.

Riverpark America's Job Center

2901 N. Ventura Rd., 3rd Floor Oxnard, CA (805) 204-5100

Ventura Job & Career Center 4651 Telephone Road, Suite 200 Ventura, CA (805) 654-3434

Santa Clara Valley Job & Career Center

725 East Main Street, Suite 101 Santa Paula, CA (805) 933-8300

Moorpark Community Service Center

(Ruben Castro Human Services Center) 612B Spring Road, Suite 301 Moorpark, CA (805) 523-5444

Fillmore Community Service Center

828 Ventura Street, Šuite 200 Fillmore, CA (805) 524-8666

East County Job & Career Center 2900 N. Madera Rd., Suite 100 Simi Valley, CA (805) 955-2282

Thousand Oaks Job & Career Center 80 E. Hillcrest Drive Suite 200 Thousand Oaks, CA (805) 374-9006

DOMESTIC ABUSE RESOURCES: (Available 24-Hours)

Coalition for Family Harmony (805) 656-1111 or (800) 300-2181 TTY – Hearing Impaired: (805) 656-4439

Interface Children and Family Services 1-800-636-6738

Additional Community Resources (Available 24-Hours in Multiple Languages)

Dial 2-1-1 or, from a cell phone, dial 1-800-339-9597.