



Believe

Dear Santa...

"... this year all I want for Christmas is for Daddy to stop hitting Mommy. I don't want toys, just for mommy to stop being hurt and crying."

Christmas is the time of year when children should be thinking about their Christmas lists and eating too many sweets. But not for the approximately 3 to 10 million children a year who witness domestic violence. For some children, the often forgotten victims of domestic abuse, its not all fun and games.

Witnessing can mean SEEING actual incidents of physical/and or sexual abuse. It can mean HEARING threats or fighting noises from another room. Children may also OBSERVE the

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aftermath of physical abuse such as blood, bruises, tears, torn clothing, and broken items. Finally children may be AWARE of the tension in the home such as their mother's fearfulness when the abuser's car pulls into the driveway.

Children exposed to family violence are more likely to develop social, emotional, psychological and or behavioral problems than those who are not. Recent research indicates that children who witness domestic violence show more anxiety, low self esteem, depression, anger and temperament problems than children who do not witness violence in the home. The trauma they experience can effect their development and continue into adulthood.

We have a child advocate who supports children who are victims. She provides a safe place for children to talk and express their feelings. She listens and develops a trusting relationship with each child. If you know of a child who needs a victims' advocate or a children's support group, please contact us. At Hands of Hope Resource Center, we believe every child has a right to live in a violence free home.

Giving Hope

We have begun collecting gifts for our holiday gift giving program this Christmas season. Through this program, community members have the opportunity to adopt women, children, and families who are victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and general crime. By adopting a family, you agree to provide Christmas presents such as toys, clothing, and household items to a family in need. Through this program, women and children who have recently suffered from violence and/or abuse are given hope and joy for the holidays!

There are a variety of ways to get involved in the holiday giving program such as adopting a family, donating gift cards, or making a monetary contribution. Please contact Karla at 632-1657 in Morrison County or Annette at 732-2319 in Todd County for more information.



HOHRC Website



*Support and healing
for victims of crime
and abuse*

Contact Us:

Morrison County Office
PO Box 67
Little Falls, MN 56345
Phone 320-632-1657
Fax 320-632-5457
24 Hour Hotline
320-632-4878
Or 1-888-454-4878

Todd County Office
PO Box 171
Long Prairie, MN 56347
Phone 320-732-2319
Fax 320-732-2056
24 Hour Hotline 1-800-682-4547



2011 Annual Community Support Campaign

If you would like to help us make a difference in the life of an abuse victim, please donate to our 2011 Community Support Campaign. Your donation will assist us in providing crisis advocacy and emergency services to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse and general crime in Morrison and Todd Counties.

Please take a moment to fill out [THIS FORM](#) and mail it along with your tax-deductible contribution to us at the address above, OR click here to [DONATE NOW](#) , OR visit our website at www.handsofhope.net and click the donate online button.

Thank you for your generosity! And to those of you who are giving for the first time, thank you so much for choosing us!