

*Domestic Violence Center
of Chester County
Annual Community Report
2011-2012*



Remembrance and Recognition

Our Vision:

The vision of the Domestic Violence Center of Chester County is to eliminate domestic violence in Chester County.



Our Mission:

The mission of the Domestic Violence Center of Chester County is to provide intervention, education, outreach, advocacy and programs to prevent, reduce and remedy domestic violence in Chester County.

Our Philosophy:

We believe that all women and children are entitled to a safe environment free from violence. We recognize that every woman is at risk, and we are committed to working collectively and cooperatively to end violence against women and their children in our community.

We believe that each woman has the ability and right to control her own life. We are committed to empowerment-based support services which affirm a woman's competence to make decisions.

We believe we must take an active role in increasing public awareness that domestic violence is a crime and in advocating systems change, in order to reduce tolerance for domestic violence in our community.

Non-discrimination Statement:

We are committed to an equal program service and equal employment opportunity program. The Domestic Violence Center of Chester County's program services and employment will be designed to prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, gender, color, creed, age, national origin, sexual identity, sexual orientation, disability, economic, social or marital status or political or religious beliefs.

Abuse in relationships is not acceptable. Everyone has a right not to live in fear, or feel like they are walking on eggshells.

Alcohol, drugs, growing up in a violent home are not excuses to be abusive to a partner or ex-partner.

Abuse is not just about broken bones, bruises or black eyes but includes telling someone what to do, what to wear, who to see, constantly putting them down, making them do sexual acts they don't want to do.

**DON'T LIVE
IN FEAR!!!
HELP AND SUPPORT
IS AVAILABLE NOW!!**

Freedom Through Empowerment



A Message from Our Board President & CEO



Remembrance...

In March of 2012, Kimberly Hvizda was murdered by her former husband at her workplace in Chester County. DVCCC held a vigil to honor her memory, and throughout the County fundraisers were held to support her children. The death of this young mother was a stark reminder that domestic violence exists in every geographical, economic, religious, and cultural area of our community. Every death is one too many.

Recognition...

We celebrate you, the Chester County community, for embracing the Domestic Violence Center's mission and supporting us as we provide programs and services for victims and their children. We salute you with the highest honor. Our goal is to continue providing the best practices in our service delivery and to present to victims a warm, friendly, and compassionate atmosphere, beginning with our intake process and extending through our housing programs. Your support has helped to make this possible.

Light of Hope...



Our commitment to victims is to be a source of strong support as they confront the inevitable challenges and walk through the darkness of being victimized. We strive to be an assuring steady presence for them, knowing that with each step forward, there may still be glimpses of sadness and despair. But keep walking! With each step forward the light of hope will burn brighter and, the mysterious path of life's unknown will begin to clear.

As we honor the victims' courageous walk, we will remain steadfast and shout louder and louder, "Keep going, keep going and your light will become a beacon that will extend beyond you and will touch others. Hope is on the way."

Our precious gifts of time and opportunity allow us to step out of our daily roles and come together as a powerful group advocating on behalf of Chester County's victims of domestic abuse.

As we continue serving ... we thank our community for your ongoing support.

Karen Elrod

Karen Elrod

President, Board of Directors

Dolly Wideman-Scott

Dolly Wideman-Scott

CEO

Freedom Through Empowerment

Our Agency History

The Domestic Violence Center of Chester County (DVCCC), founded in 1976, is the oldest agency in Chester County providing services exclusively for victims of domestic violence and their children. We are the sole agency under contract from the Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare to do so. Since we opened our doors, we have served more than 30,000 victims of domestic abuse. Although the majority of our participants are female, DVCCC does not discriminate.

DVCCC began as the Chester County YWCA Women's Resource Center (WRC), to serve as an information and referral service for Chester County women. Once this service became known, it started receiving a flood of calls from women in situations of violence. The directors of WRC reorganized the agency as the Domestic Violence Center of Chester County, focusing on domestic violence intervention and prevention.

Shortly after the reorganization, DVCCC began to operate an emergency shelter for battered women and their children. In 1981, we were one of 35 programs to become a member of the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV), a private nonprofit organization and the first statewide domestic violence coalition in the United States. Through a capital campaign and with help from a broad-based community coalition, we relocated to what is now our current facility. This center supports our administrative offices and serves as a base for our Emergency Shelter and Bridge housing program.

The 1990s were a transitional period for us and for the community. The population of Chester County

was rapidly growing and diversifying and domestic violence was finally recognized as a serious social problem. To combat this problem we became a partner in efforts to prevent violence against women. We joined Pennsylvania's STOP Violence Against Women initiative at its inception in the County and continue to be active in this initiative.

In the past 15 years DVCCC has experienced significant growth in response to the need. We have expanded outreach activities, broadened our range of services and established partnerships with other service providers. Our legal and counseling programs

have been expanded to provide more comprehensive and bilingual services for participants. We have a toll free number and a TTY system for victims who are deaf and hard of hearing. Our housing facilities have been upgraded to make them special needs accessible, as well as more secure and home-like. Since 2000, we have maintained satellite offices in Kennett Square and Coatesville. We opened a new office in Oxford in 2008 and have expanded our outreach by serving clients through loaned space at the Phoenixville Hospital starting in 2011.

Research conducted by PCADV found the greatest barrier to self-sufficiency for 93% of the formerly abused women surveyed was housing. Living in the wealthiest county in Pennsylvania definitely makes affordable housing an issue. DVCCC's Phase IV Self-Sufficient Housing program, consisting of 13 three-bedroom, town homes, was launched in 2005 .

For the county's more than 500,000 residents, DVCCC fills what was and is a noticeable void in services for victims of domestic abuse.



DVCCC
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CENTER
of Chester County
Freedom Through Empowerment

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Our Services

DVCCC provides services to victims of domestic abuse and their dependent children throughout Chester County. We offer services at our main site and at our four satellite sites in Kennett Square, Oxford and Coatesville, and Phoenixville. Our main building, located at a confidential address to assure client safety and privacy, is accessible 24 hours a day to serve victims and residents. Our satellite sites do not offer shelter facilities and their addresses are published. All services are free and confidential. Services include:



Hotline ~ We provide a 24 hour, 7 day a week hotline, including a toll-free number and a TTY system for the hearing impaired.

Adult Counseling ~ Trained counselors provide crisis intervention, intake and needs assessment, individual and group non-therapeutic counseling, service and safety planning, information and referrals to other agencies as needed.

Housing ~ DVCCC has four housing programs for victims of abuse and their dependent children. These include a 30 day Emergency Shelter, 12/18 month Bridge Transitional Housing, 12/18 month "Phase III" Independent Living Scattered Sites, and a 24 month "Phase IV" Independent Living.

These programs can house up to 100 victims and their dependent children. The services offered within our housing programs include food and clothing (Emergency Shelter), goal and safety planning, counseling, service referrals, advocacy, and legal services. In addition, we offer supportive services, such as tracking participants' progress finding permanent housing, developing a budget, education and job search activities.

Relocation ~ In addition to the aforementioned housing programs, the agency is a recipient of state Relocation Fund that allows DVCCC to provide assistance for survivors who must relocate to attain safety, but who are financially unable to raise a security deposit, cover moving fees, travels costs and other relocation expenses.

Children's Services ~ DVCCC provides individual and group counseling, along with recreational activities for children of victims of domestic violence. The focus is

to create a space where the children can feel safe to explore feelings that effect daily living, and regain a sense of safety and acceptance.

Legal Center ~ Staff Attorneys and Legal Advocates provide legal options counseling, legal advocacy, representation in protection from abuse matters, custody, and support, accompaniment to court hearings and outreach to District Courts.

Rapid Response Project ~ We offer immediate on-site assistance 24 hours a day in the Coatesville and Oxford areas. The Rapid Response project creates a direct connection between the police, the domestic abuse victim, the local hospital, and the DVCCC. Through this program, law enforcement and medical practitioners receive education and training and victims receive enhanced support.

Community Education and Training ~ DVCCC staff, Board and volunteers conduct domestic violence education and prevention programs and training, at schools, businesses, organizations, health fairs, and community events. Our Medical Advocacy Program trains health care providers to screen patients for domestic abuse and provides technical support to hospitals in developing policies and protocols to respond to domestic violence. DVCCC collaborates with Crime Victims' Center of Chester County, Family Court, and the District Attorney's office through our Local Police Training Program to coordinate services, and provide training and protocol development support for local police departments and law enforcement agents.

Volunteer/Intern Program ~ Our volunteers and student interns are well-trained, good-hearted individuals who work diligently to help us fulfill our mission and attain our goals.

Our Accomplishments

In fiscal year 2011/2012, DVCCC provided services and public education to more than 13,250 individuals. In total, we provided direct services to 3,222 new and continuing adults victims of domestic violence along with 550 of their dependent children. Direct services include our 24 hour hotline, adult counseling, children's services, emergency shelter, transitional housing, legal representation and advocacy. More specifically:

- ◆ 45 adults and 46 of their children were provided with emergency shelter for 3,249 nights.
- ◆ 22 families were provided with transitional housing through our three programs.
- ◆ 804 participants were provided with legal options counseling and community resource referral and court accompaniment to PFA or District Court.
- ◆ 220 participants received representation in protection from abuse orders; 44 participants were assisted with custody or other legal matters.
- ◆ DVCCC Counselor/Advocates provided 10,821 hours of individual and group adult counseling.
- ◆ 2,205 hotline calls were answered.
- ◆ 550 new and continuing children were provided with 1,136 counseling service hours and 2,791 childcare/homework help/recreational hours.
- ◆ 91 community education programs were provided to groups reaching 9,479 persons.
- ◆ 25 new volunteers participated in a state required 45 hour training to provide domestic violence services. In total, volunteers provided 4,650 hours of children, legal, housing and counseling services.



Pictured above: DVCCC volunteers were honored at a luncheon in April for Volunteer Appreciation Week. Lisa Trucksess was recognized for her volunteer commitment to our agency.

Our Staff



Staff members enjoyed an evening together at the DVCCC Sunny Days fundraising event.

Administration

Dolly Wideman-Scott, MS, CEO

Terry Moody, Director of Development & Communication

Vicki Szostkiewicz, Director of Finance & Administration

Rebecca Ruiz, Administrative Services Specialist

Counseling Services

Sandra Lewis, MHS, Director of Counseling

Michelle Auch, Relief Counselor/Advocate

Donia Bradley, Relief Counselor/Advocate

Chakira Coleman, Counselor/Advocate

Kathleen Carter, Relief Counselor/Advocate

Maureen Deitz, Counselor/Advocate-Oxford

Michelle Harris-Alexander, Relief Counselor/Advocate

Naomi McCaffrey, Crisis Counselor/Community

Outreach Advocate-Phoenixville

Margaret Ortega, Residential Advocate/Facility Maintenance

Rachel Smitheman-McLaughlin, Relief Counselor/Advocate

Jenny Steinen, Relief Counselor/Advocate

Amanda Winkey, Counselor/Advocate-Coatesville

Legal Services

Angela Halse, Esq., Director of Legal Services

Cindy Carpenter, Legal Advocate/Counselor

Zeneida Cartagena, Legal Advocate/Counselor

Fredda Maddox, Esq., Civil Legal Attorney

Clara Vazquez-Lopez, Legal Advocate

Housing Services

Charlotte Davis, Phase III Family Counselor

Jeanne Fisk, Transitional Housing Family Counselor/
Advocate

Laura Sechler, Children's Counselor/Advocate

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Hamorton Chapel
Harding, Carol
Heisler, Carol
Helping Hands St Simon & Jude Church

Hemingway, David
Hilyard's Business Solutions
HomeNet Automotive
Honeybrook Golf Club
Horninger, Christopher
ING
Iron Hill Brewery & Restaurant
Jane Chalfont
Jane's Flower Patch
Jimmy's BBQ
Johnson, Carrie
Johnson, Jane
Joseph Anthony Spa
Just Children
KatiMac Floral Designs
Kennett Square Golf & Country Club
Keystone Foods
Kimberly-Clark Corporation
Kinslow, Lorraine
Knitty Lion Needleworks
Kramer, Shiloh
LA Fitness
Ladies Auxillary VFW Post 106
Learning Alliance
Leisey-Bartsch, Jacob & Bonnie
Lentz, Heather
Lincoln Room
Lincoln University
Little Smiles
Longwood Gardens
Ludwig's Gourmet Catering
Mackrell, Christine
Madaus, John
Magician Ari
Mainline Quilters
Mandarin Oriental ~ Elbow Beach Bermuda
Mattiola, John
McCormack, Rosemary
Merenda, Elise
Mighty Moose Hockey
MLA Portraits
Molieri, Tom
Murphy, David & Gwen
Murphy, Kevin
NOVA Bank
Oakes, Colleen
Olive Garden Restaurant
Osborne, Arlene
Outback Steakhouse
Outback Trading Company
Palma, Bonnie
Parker, Rita
Passantino, Linda
People's Light Theater Co
Pepsi Beverage Company
Petty, Brian
Petty, Debbie

Petty, Ray
Pitkapoasi, Meira
Popma, Mary Ann
Prescuitti, Laura
Produce Junction Wholesale Fruit & Produce
Prudential Fox & Roach Realtors/The Trident Group
Radley Run Country Club
Reich, Marilyn
Reynolds, Theresa
Richnow Lifestyle Transitions
Robertson, Lisa
Rocca, Beth
Rodgers, Erin
Romaro, Arleen
Rubi First Dance
Russo, Rene
Ryan, Kevin
Salus Chiropractic: A Family Wellness Center
Sarah Circle
Sartomer
Scautitto, Maria
Schwoebel, Gretchen
Seipel, Marilyn
Seven Stars Inn
Sharp Image Salon
Sheraton Great Valley
Sherman, Frank
Shetron, Erin
Slawinsky, Lisa
Smith Auction Company
Solinsky, Lucy
Spielvogel, Bianca I
St Maximilian Kolbe Church
St Paul's Baptist Church
St Paul's Lutheran Church
Strangers Band
Swig, LLC
Thomas, Dhan
Thompson, Dave
Three Little Pigs
Timeless Dwelling
Tribe Sound Records
Troelle, Toni
Trojak, Kathy
Trugkey, Carol
Truskett, Carole
Twin Lakes Brewing Company
Ultimate Image Salon
United Bulkcarriers
Uno Chicago Grill
Unruh, Turner, Burke, & Frees
Van Cott, Lisa
Vanguard
Verizon
Verizon Teleproducts

In Kind

AAUW
ACAC Fitness & Wellness Center
Adolph, Marie
Akcelerant Software LLC
Allstate Northeast Casualty Helping Hands
Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority
Altoonian, Gary
American Helicopter Museum & Education Center
Annunciation BVM Church
Anonymous
Applebee's Restaurants
Applecross Country Club
Aristocrats Salon
Artful Framer & Westside Gallery
Assumption BVM
Austin, Katie
Avalon Restaurant
Azie Restaurant
Bailey, Steve
Baldwin School Help Club
Bancroft Elementary School
Baptist Church of West Chester
Barr, Ann Marie
Bath & Body Works
Bell Nursery/Home Depot
Bella Boutique
Bella's Desserts
Berry, Bob
Betz, Carol
Bice, Lisa
Bizzi Girls of West Chester
Blanket Circle At Maris Grove
Blue Moon Florist
Blue-Lateef, Amy
Boczkowski, Randy
Bove Jewelers
Bradford, Joan
Brandywine River Museum
Brandywine Valley Quilters
Brethauer, Alma
Brown, Ginny
Brown, Scott & Lauren
Bruton, Jacque

This list may not reflect everyone whose generosity has affected us over the year. We sincerely apologize for any inaccuracies and welcome your corrections.

Freedom Through Empowerment

Thank You to our generous donors & supporters!

In Kind ~ Cont.

Vertex Fitness Personal Training Studio
Victoria's Secret
Victory Brewing Company
Villa Marie Academy
Wable, Linda
Wagner, Rachel
Waltman, William R
Warrick Family
West Bradford Brownie Troop
West Chester University
Westtown Academy
Whitford Country Club
Whitford Hills Garden Club
Widener University
William Malany & Sons
Willistown UMC
Wilson, Jennifer
Winterthur Museum & Country Estate
Wollaston, Mary
Women of Exelon
Woods, Donna

Wyncote Golf Club
Yucis, Kristi
Zaun, Courtney
Zito, Carrie
Zukin, Betsy

In Honor & In Memory

In Honor of Katie Calloway
Bongard, Elizabeth

In Honor of John Greenwald
Sickles, Ann
Watson, Bob and MaryAnn

In Honor of Meg Maupay
Maupay, Walter

In Honor of Pastoral Staff of Westminster Presbyterian Church
Westminster Presbyterian Women

In Memory of Shari Enger
ING Co-workers
ING Foundation
Brantzeg, Tony
Britton, Donald

Cludray-Engelke, Paula
Coca, Cassandra
Burns, PC, David
de Regnaucourt, Francis
Doll, Sharon
Farhat, Rosemarie
Fleming, Christopher
Gardner, Alan
Geramita, Victoria
GHS Class Of 1980
Hansen, Lisa
Hechler, James
Hughbanks, Myrtle
Humphrey, Marilyn
Lau, Richard
London Manhattan Energy
Lusk, Patrick
Macias, Josephine
Madison, Betty
Martel, Louis and Alisa
Maxwell, Heather
McCormick, Michael & Judith
Mulheran, Daniel & Carol
Nelson, Andrea
Remicalm, LLC
Russell, Melody

Schmucker, Linda
Spear, Pamela
Surak, Royce
Surber, Rosalie
Tuttle, Mary
Wagner, William
Weinberg, Michael
Woolsy, Bonnie

In Memory of Maryanne Fullerton

Fullerton, John
Okraszewski, Anita

In Memory of Elsie Kramer Heck

Elsie Kramer Heck Estate

In Memory of Kimberly Hvizda
Wawa Inc Corporate Charities Committee

In Memory of Brian Petty

Dimedio, Beverly
Erlichman, Toby
Kehoe, Virginia
Krauss, Michele
Trucksess, Lisa

In Memory of Myrtle Tordone
Zumbano, Gerri

A Legacy Continues...

Friends, family and coworkers of the late Shari Enger have continued to support DVCCC by coming into our Shelter to do renovations on our participant rooms and common areas. Several people donated to us in her memory, and ING Foundation presented DVCCC with a generous grant in her name. Pictured below from left to right: ING presents DVCCC with a plaque that is now hanging in our Bridge Community Room; ING employees along with Shari's children Matthew and Jennifer makeover our Children's Room.



Freedom Through Empowerment

Community Education

Over the past year, DVCCC's Public Education Committee has focused on two central topics: domestic violence in the workplace, and dating violence in high school and college.

The impact of domestic violence in the workplace was presented at a seminar co-sponsored by HealthAdvocate, and featured Tracy Davidson of NBC10 as a guest speaker. DVCCC is developing additional workplace presentations for the benefit of area businesses. These presentations include information on creating policies addressing this issue.



"Domestic Violence is a widespread issue in America, and it doesn't just stay behind closed doors at home. It follows the victim into the workplace, affecting their job performance, attendance and coworkers. It also has the potential to affect the safety of everyone—not just the victim—at work."
Michael Cardillo, President and CEO of HealthAdvocate

"Domestic Violence: The Impact on the Workplace" Seminar at Penn State Great Valley *Pictured above from left to right: DVCCC Director of Counseling, Sandra Lewis, Advisory Board Member Linda Tordone, CEO Dolly Wideman-Scott, Board Member Judy Braun, Director of Development Terry Moody, President of Board of Directors Karen Elrod, Advisory Board Member Shari Pirone.*

As part of an ongoing focus to help break the cycle of violence, over the past year DVCCC Counselor/Advocates and volunteers have spoken to hundreds of students at area high schools and colleges to build awareness of dating violence, and to let them know of resources available to them.

- ◆ Nearly 1.5 million high school students nationwide experience physical abuse from a dating partner in a single year.
- ◆ One in three adolescents in the U.S. is a victim of physical, sexual, emotional or verbal abuse from a dating partner, a figure that far exceeds rates of other types of youth violence.
- ◆ One in 10 high school students has been purposefully hit, slapped or physically hurt by a boyfriend or girlfriend.
- ◆ One quarter of high school girls have been victims of physical or sexual abuse. (LovesRespect.org)



"Dating Violence Prevention: What Teenagers Should Know" Owen J. Roberts High School
Pictured above: DVCCC Counselor/Advocate Naomi McCaffrey speaks to 11th grade students about dating violence.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CENTER OF CHESTER COUNTY

STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL POSITION

JUNE 30, 2012 AND 2011

	2012	2011
ASSETS		
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash	\$ 302,390	\$ 255,737
Accounts receivable		
Government grants	142,764	86,890
Contributions	60,191	80,000
Other	5,541	5,946
Prepaid expenses	11,304	24,695
Total current assets	522,190	453,268
OTHER ASSETS		
Property and equipment, net	1,726,163	1,807,511
Due from affiliate	568,352	575,948
Beneficial interest in assets held by community foundation	41,703	42,439
Total other assets	2,336,218	2,425,898
Total assets	\$ 2,858,408	\$ 2,879,166
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Current portion of notes payable	\$ 13,052	\$ 178,900
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	88,873	90,421
Total current liabilities	101,925	269,321
OTHER LIABILITIES		
Notes payable	411,485	260,000
Total liabilities	513,410	529,321
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted	2,157,622	2,154,999
Temporarily restricted	145,673	152,407
Permanently restricted	41,703	42,439
Total net assets	2,344,998	2,349,845
Total liabilities and net assets	\$ 2,858,408	\$ 2,879,166

“The Domestic Violence Center of Chester County is a tax-exempt 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization supported by those who believe in our mission”

Freedom Through Empowerment

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CENTER OF CHESTER COUNTY

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2012 AND 2011

	<u>Totals</u>			
	<u>2012</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>%</u>
REVENUE AND SUPPORT				
Contributions	\$ 621,455	39%	\$ 727,397	42%
Government grants	871,334	55%	910,631	53%
Special events	57,859	3%	47,325	3%
Client service income	27,973	2%	15,600	1%
Investment income	4,227	-	4,339	-
Rental income	11,705	1%	10,819	1%
Change in beneficial interest in assets held by community foundation	(736)	-	6,405	-
Net assets released from restrictions	-	-	-	-
Total revenue and support	<u>1,593,817</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>1,722,516</u>	<u>100%</u>
EXPENSES				
Program services				
Adult counseling	340,236	21%	350,229	21%
Early care/childrens' services	158,242	10%	264,864	16%
Independent living	130,529	8%	93,730	6%
Emergency and bridge housing	229,624	14%	295,912	18%
Phase IV housing	149,657	9%	123,499	8%
Legal services	373,643	24%	343,414	21%
Support services				
Management and general	110,079	7%	87,372	5%
Development	106,654	7%	87,001	5%
Total expenses	<u>1,598,664</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>1,646,021</u>	<u>100%</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(4,847)		76,495	
NET ASSETS				
Beginning of year	<u>2,349,845</u>		<u>2,273,350</u>	
End of year	<u>\$ 2,344,998</u>		<u>\$ 2,349,845</u>	

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Freedom Through Empowerment



Freedom through Empowerment

PO Box 832, West Chester, PA 19381-0832

Administration: 610-431-3546

Website: www.dvccc.com

Email: domesticviolencecenter@dvccc.com

24 Hour Hotline Numbers

1-888-711-6270 (Toll Free)

610-431-1430

610-431-7262 (TTY)

Our Satellite Offices

Coatesville Office

1001 E Lincoln Highway
Coatesville, PA 19320
610-384-2774
Fax: 610-384-2159

Kennett Square Office

La Comunidad Hispana
731 W Cypress Street
Kennett Square, PA 19348
610-444-7550 Ext 233/243
Fax: 610-444-6407

Oxford Office

35 N 3rd Street
Oxford, PA 19363
610-932-8557 Ext 211
Fax: 610-932-8270



United Way
of Chester County



United Way Agency

Official registration and financial information of the Domestic Violence Center of Chester County may be obtained from the PA Department of State by calling toll free within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999

Registration does not imply endorsement.