The Teddy Bear Project

Every child who enters our shelter receives a stuffed teddy bear. Tears quickly disappear, as the child is comforted at this transitional period. Generous donors throughout the community continuously supply the shelter with these cuddly objects of comfort and affection.

Effects of Domestic Violence on Children

Sleeplessness, nightmares, bed-wetting
Headaches, stomachaches
Fear of being hurt or killed
Physically aggressive
Takes pleasure in hurting animals
Temper tantrums
Depression, acting withdrawn
Over-achieving, acting like a small adult
Difficulty concentrating
Difficulty with school
Repeating or reenacting violent behavior

This project is funded, in part, under a contract with the Cabinet for Families & Children with state funds allocated by the Kentucky General Assembly.

Love Doesn’t Have To Hurt.
The Children’s Program

Our program is designed especially for those children who have witnessed domestic violence and entered our emergency shelter. The program assists children as they try to cope with the changes that occur when a family leaves an abusive home and enters a shelter environment.

- Children are encouraged to express feelings about leaving their home, schools, and family and friends
- Children are allowed to play and communicate openly in a safe environment
- Children are provided opportunities to explore issues of danger and safety
- Children are taught conflict resolution skills and respect for others
- Children are reminded that domestic violence is not their fault
- Children are nurtured

Groups & Activities

Some of the services the children’s program offers include:

- Child friendly environment
- Individual child counseling
- Child advocacy
- Support groups for children
- Safety planning with children
- Developmentally appropriate activities
- Activity calendar for mothers and child
- Field Trips
- School based intervention
- Referrals
- Community education programs

Parenting Program

BRASS, Inc. also has a parenting program available for mothers that includes educational information and positive parenting techniques. This program is available for both individual and group sessions. Topics include:

- Parent/Child communication skills
- Nurturing children & parents
- Effects of violence on children
- Effective parenting tips
- Healthy Relationships
- Safety planning with children
- Building your child’s self-esteem
- Children and stress

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