



**middle
way
house, inc.**

A United Way Agency

Providing meaningful alternatives to living with violence

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Middle Way House to host Virtual Walk “One is Too Many” for Sexual Assault Awareness Month

(March 25, 2021) BLOOMINGTON, IN:

On April 24, 2021, Middle Way House will host its first-ever virtual walk, to raise money for sexual assault services provided by the Crisis Intervention Services Program. We will be walking one mile virtually "together" on April 24 at 10 am to show our support to survivors of sexual violence. Participants can walk their mile anywhere in solidarity at that time or at any time during April. Participants are encouraged to take a selfie on their walk and share it with us using the hashtags #oneistoomany and #SAAM2021.

There will be virtual trivia at 4 pm on the 24th for individuals who register for the walk! The \$20 cost of registration includes a t-shirt designed especially for Sexual Assault Awareness Month by a community member. Register by March 31, 2021 to ensure that you get a t-shirt!!

www.middlewayhouse.org/oneistoomany

In addition, we have several Sexual Assault Awareness Month webinars, available for free, and you can find more information on our website at www.middlewayhouse.org/events. All of this information is also available on our facebook at www.facebook.com/middlewayhouse.



ABOUT MIDDLE WAY HOUSE:

Since 1971, [Middle Way House](http://www.MiddleWayHouse.org) has been providing services to people in crisis. Today, Middle Way House provides emergency shelter; a 24-hour help and crisis line; on-scene advocacy; support services for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking and human trafficking; transitional and permanent housing solutions for survivors; legal advocacy; and education and prevention programs. Middle Way House serves six counties in southern Indiana, relying on a staff of 70 and a volunteer force of 300+ to provide around-the-clock response to abuse and assault. For more information, please visit: www.MiddleWayHouse.org

Middle Way House offers:

[A 24-hour Help and Crisis Line:](#) (812) 336-0846. The Crisis Line offers immediate intervention and support by trained peers and advocates. Help is available in multiple languages, as well as TDD, for the hearing impaired. These services are free and confidential.

[Emergency shelter](#) for people fleeing violence at home. Our 30-bed shelter is a safe place for survivors with and without children until they are able to find an appropriate, affordable place to live. At the shelter, residents contribute to the upkeep of their own and group spaces, often share evening meals, and take advantage of programs designed to help them move on with their lives.

[Transitional Housing:](#) helps low-income individuals recovering from the impacts of domestic violence to secure permanent, safe and affordable housing; achieve economic security; and develop their capacities for self-determination. The RISE! opened in 1998, and currently provides affordable housing for 28 families who have experienced life-threatening violence, poverty, and homelessness. Free programming at The RISE! focuses on giving the formerly disempowered the knowledge, skills, and confidence to take the power that is rightfully theirs to determine their own future.

[Healthy Relationships & Violence Prevention Education:](#) Middle Way House has created an interactive curriculum designed to prevent interpersonal dating violence as well as domestic and sexual violence. Specially trained educators tailor presentations to fit the specific needs of each audience. This program is offered to area middle schools, high schools, and youth-serving organizations. Adult versions of the program are available, including sessions for developmentally disabled adults and lesbian, bisexual, gay and transgender men and women. Our objective is for participants to leave with the shared goal of preventing violence in the future and in possession of the skills to do just that.

[Legal Advocacy:](#) The legal advocacy team is coordinated by an attorney and two paralegals. Legal advocates are available weekdays from 8 AM – 6 PM to assist people with questions relating to legal remedies for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, trafficking and harassment.



Advocates assist clients in filling out divorce petitions, motions to assist, and protective orders; discuss custody and visitation options, making referrals to *pro bono* and reduced fee programs, private attorneys, therapists and other resources; assist clients eligible for victims' compensation in pursuing relief; and accompany victims to court hearings and case-related appointments to provide emotional support. The legal advocacy office coordinates with the Protective Order Project at the Indiana University Mauer School of Law, which provides assistance with volunteer attorney back-up for persons seeking protective orders, and the Protective Order Assistance Partnership (POAP), located within the Monroe County Clerk's Office, for victims who are self-petitioning for orders of protection.

Sexual Violence Support Services: Middle Way House provides services for survivors of sexual violence, which includes any type of sexual contact or behavior that occurs without the explicit consent of the recipient. Falling under the definition of sexual assault are sexual activities, such as forced sexual intercourse, forcible sodomy, child molestation, incest, fondling, and attempted rape.

Human Trafficking Support Services: The U.S. Department of State estimates over 27 million people across the globe are currently trapped in a form of modern day slavery and the United States has been identified as a significant hub for both labor and sex trafficking. Middle Way House has provided support services for many survivors of human trafficking, which is defined as a commercial sex act induced by force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person induced to perform such act has not attained 18 years of age. We provide shelter and resources for survivors.

For more information, please visit www.MiddleWayHouse.org.