Turning Point Newsletter September 2025

Turning Point



Board members Tiffany Umburger and Jill Hunt thank you for your commitment to our board over the years!

FROM THE HEART OF 3M



Building a Community of Leadership, Safety, and Hope

At Turning Point, we believe that keeping families safe requires more than individual action—it requires a community willing to lead, learn, and speak out.

Domestic violence is not just a private issue; it is a community issue. Real change begins when we educate ourselves, advocate for survivors, and activate leaders at every level to model accountability and healthy relationships.

That is why we are excited to highlight the recent creation of **Hope Cards** in Illinois. These durable, wallet-sized cards will make it easier for survivors with an order of protection to share critical information quickly and safely with schools, employers, or law enforcement. It's a simple but powerful example of how advocacy and policy can directly improve safety and peace of mind for families.

In October, Turning Point will build on this momentum through two key events. On October 2, we are honored to host **Dr. Jackson Katz** at Smith's Garage in McHenry. Dr. Katz is a leading national voice on domestic and gender-based violence, and his work emphasizes the vital role of men's leadership in changing community culture. Later in the month, we will gather for our Annual Candlelight Vigil a time to honor lives lost, stand with survivors, and recommit ourselves to building a future free from violence.

Domestic violence is an uncomfortable but critical subject. The risks to survivors continue to evolve with the rise of technology, from geo-tracking to financial abuse to digital harassment. This is why we must face the reality that domestic violence affects all of us, and why our survivors deserve unwavering support.

One powerful way to make an impact is through the bystander approach—the idea that we all have a role to play in prevention. Whether it's checking in on a friend, speaking up when we see unhealthy behaviors, or connecting someone to resources, bystanders have the power to interrupt cycles of silence and create cultures of safety and respect.

Education, advocacy, and activation are the cornerstones of this work. Each of us has a role to play in creating a safer, healthier community. We invite you to join us this October as we continue this important conversation and shine a light on the power of hope and leadership.

Together, we can build a community where every family is safe, every survivor is supported, and every voice matters. We hope to see you at our upcoming events.

With gratitude,

Mary Margaret Maule Executive Director MBA, ICDVP

EDUCATE | About Our Services

The Courage to Care: Featuring *Jackson Katz*



Join Us for a Powerful Community Event on Domestic Violence Awareness

We invite you to be part of an inspiring evening dedicated to raising awareness, honoring survivors, and uniting as a community to confront domestic violence.

"The Courage to Care" will bring together survivors, advocates, and local leaders for a powerful gathering focused on education, healing, and action. Featured keynote speaker Dr. Jackson Katz will share vital insights, and attendees will have the opportunity to connect with local resources and services that support those affected by abuse.

Whether you've experienced domestic violence, support someone who has, or simply want to be part of the solution—your presence matters. Let's come together to break the silence, uplift one another, and build a safer, more compassionate community for everyone.

BUY TICKETS HERE

A Walk in Their Shoes Art Walk and Domestic Violence Vigil

The effects of intimate partner violence can deeply affect individuals, families, and entire communities — sometimes with tragic and irreversible outcomes. We invite you to join Turning Point in honoring the lives lost to domestic violence, while also coming together in hope and determination to continue the vital work of prevention, support, and healing in McHenry County and beyond.





Additionally, we have a monthlong event art walk created by survivors of domestic violence. Art will be showcased in the windows of businesses around the Woodstock Square. This event is called **A Walk in Their Shoes** and has provided a deeply personal and transformative space for survivors to explore healing through creativity and expression.

We invite you to join us at this event and see the art throughout the month of October. Thank you to those businesses who have joined us to help us bring awareness to this important issue.

Read Our Blogs

When you visit (turnpt.org), you will see a tab that reads "News & Blogs". Clicking blogs will allow you to read new blogs written by Turning Point staff.

We will be posting the 2nd Wednesday of every month, be sure to follow our social media and check out our website to see the new blog go live!

For the month of September, we are highlighting two topics: the **Courthouse & Orders of Protection and HOPE Cards.**

Inside Legal Advocacy: Orders of Protection in McHenry County

September 10, 2025

At Turning Point, we support survivors of domestic violence not only emotionally and physically, but also legally. A vital...

Alternatives to Violence: Supporting Healing and Connection

August 13, 2025

Violence, whether it is physical, emotional, or built into our systems, leaves lasting impacts on people, families, and whole...

READ OUR BLOGS HERE

ADVOCATE | For Our Mission

Ways to Support Us

For many, Turning Point is the first place a survivor feels heard, safe, and supported.

We never charge for survivor services, but providing them takes a significant investment in our staff and programs. Your gift makes it possible for us to keep showing up, every single day.

Have your donation of personal hygiene or household products delivered right to our agency from Amazon! Click the links below to visit our Amazon wish list and support us in other ways.



AMAZON WISH LIST

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO TAKE ACTION

ACTIVATE | Yourself in The Community

Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars! We have a ton of events coming up this year especially during October, which is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Be sure to save the dates listed below so you can get involved! More details to come on our next few newsletters.

- The Courage to Care: October 2, 2025
- Domestic Violence Vigil and Walk in Their Shoes: October 16, 2025
- **40 Hour Domestic Violence Training**: November 17 to 19, 2025
- Save the Date! Paint the Night Purple Gala 2026: February 28, 2026

SIGN UP FOR 40 HOUR TRAINING

Turning Point is the only comprehensive domestic violence agency in McHenry County. Our services for survivors include a 24/7 helpline, emergency shelter, individual and group counseling, mental health therapy, children's counseling, and legal advocacy. Our survivor services are offered at no cost to the community and are available in both English and Spanish.

Our Alternatives to Violence programs include our Partner Abuse Intervention Program, Survivor's Intervention Program, and Positive Parenting Interventions program. These programs are open to the community and have sliding scale fees.

Turning Point also offers Outreach and Prevention programming to local McHenry County schools and community members.

Our holistic approach ensures that we address domestic violence at every stage -from crisis intervention to prevention—so that we're not just reacting to violence, but actively working to stop it before it begins.

Domestic and intimate partner violence can affect anyone. Turning Point serves everyone and we do not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, religion, gender, or sexual orientation.

FOLLOW US @TURNINGPOINTDVS









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