

Turning
Point

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICES

October is
Domestic Violence
Awareness Month



Educate. Advocate. Activate

FROM THE HEART OF 3M

Why Pink, But Not Purple?

Ever wonder why the NFL wears pink for Breast Cancer Awareness Month, but not purple for Domestic Violence Awareness Month?

I'll be honest—this question has been on my mind long before I began working at Turning Point. And over time, I've come to a simple, sobering answer: Domestic violence is a harder conversation.

Talking openly about abuse—especially intimate partner violence—means confronting uncomfortable truths. It means asking tough questions about accountability, leadership, and the culture that allows violence and misogyny to persist.

Recently, Turning Point hosted Dr. Jackson Katz as part of our ongoing commitment to raising these exact questions. We believe that creating lasting change begins with education, advocacy, and community activation. We must be willing to address not only the violence we see, but also the violent language, attitudes, and behaviors that often go unchecked.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, a time to honor survivors, remember those we've lost, and recommit to the work of ending domestic violence. And that work has never been more urgent.

We're seeing a disturbing rise in the number of survivors seeking help—many facing increased danger, and new forms of abuse made possible by evolving technology.

Here are a few critical facts to consider:

- Every minute, approximately 20 people in the U.S. are physically abused by an intimate partner.
- Domestic violence isn't just physical—it can also be **emotional, financial, spiritual, digital**, or involve **coercive control and isolation**.
- Abuse can affect **anyone**, regardless of age, race, gender identity, or background.



If someone you know shows signs like unexplained injuries, withdrawing from social connections, or needing permission to make everyday decisions, they may be experiencing abuse. Create safe space for honest conversation. Listen without judgment. Help them find support.

Resources & Ways to Get Involved:

- **Turning Point Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-815-338-8081**
- **Website: turnpt.org**
- **Wear purple on October 16 to show your support.**
- **Use hashtags: #DVAM2025 #WithSurvivors #EducateAdvocateActivate**
- **Join us for our Candlelight Vigil and Walk in Her Shoes Art Installation on October 16 at the Woodstock Square.**

We invite you to be part of this conversation. Domestic violence doesn't just happen behind closed doors—it happens in every community. And every one of us has a role in breaking the cycle.

Thank you for showing up, for listening, and for taking action. **Together, we can amplify survivor voices and build a future free from violence.**

With gratitude,

Mary Margaret Maule
Executive Director
MBA, ICDVP

At Turning Point, it is our mission that we educate, advocate, and activate the citizens of McHenry County about the impacts of domestic violence. In honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we hosted an educational and motivational event with renowned speaker and gender violence prevention advocate Jackson Katz. Walking away from this event, we hope that you gained a new sense of knowledge and drive to continue the efforts to advocate for survivors of intimate partner violence, just as we will at Turning Point.



A Walk in Their Shoes



We have a month-long event throughout October where art created by survivors of domestic violence are 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.

Thank you for being a vital part of our community’s healing story.

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.

Please join us on October 16 at the Woodstock Square gazebo at 6pm.



Wear Purple Day

Wear Purple Day is Thursday, October 16. A great way to raise awareness about domestic violence, show support for Turning Point, and spark conversations is to purchase our apparel. Wearing our shirts shows that you support the work we do in McHenry County to support and empower survivors. Apparel can be shipped or picked up locally.



[BUY APPAREL
HERE](#)

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 October, we are highlighting **Domestic Violence Awareness Month**. We will be honoring survivors, promote prevention efforts, and overall raise awareness about a topic that impacts us all.

Small Actions, Big Change: From Awareness to Action

October 8, 2025

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month: Awareness, Action, and Community Change
October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. But this...

HOPE Cards: Wallet-Sized Hope for Survivors

September 25, 2025

As research and understanding of domestic violence continues to expand, advocates and policy makers continue to push at all...

[READ OUR BLOGS
HERE](#)

ADVOCATE

Holiday Giving

As the holiday season approaches, we are looking forward to giving, sharing, and spreading cheer and this year, we are once again looking to bring a little extra holiday spirit to our mission!

We would like to invite you to join us in making a difference through our Holiday Giving Program and making a donation of gift cards that will be directly distributed to clients this December. To donate, please contact Mallory Breutzmann at mbreutzmann@turnpt.org.



Gift Card Program

Gift cards help us empower our clients to maintain their independence by assisting with the purchase of clothing, household items, medication, birthday gifts, and more.

[CLICK HERE TO DONATE GIFT
CARDS](#)

ACTIVATE

Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars!

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Be sure to save the dates listed below so you can get involved!

- **Walk In Their Shoes Art Installation:** October 1 – 31, 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**

SAVE THE DATE: GALA

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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