

## Based on the philosophy that domestic and sexual violence is unacceptable, the staff of DOVES:

Provides culturally sensitive services, free of charge, including advocacy and support to victims and their children who are in abusive situations.

Offers encouragement, support, and options that allow victims and survivors of domestic, sexual, and other violent crimes to make informed decisions about their lives.

Strives to enhance the self-esteem of those we serve, and to encourage self determination by providing a respectful, supportive, and encouraging environment with positive role modeling.

Provides assistance to all those who are eligible for our services, without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion or disability.

## Did you know?

DOVES advocates are available to speak to youth groups, community organizations, students and others about the dynamics of domestic and dating violence, and the resources available for victims of family abuse, sexual assault and stalking. The effects of these types of crimes radiate out into our communities, and it takes a community to stop domestic violence. The more we all know, the more we can be of assistance. Call 883-3350 to schedule a presentation, or to receive informational materials. We are here to help!

## Services provided by DOVES:

- Assistance in obtaining orders of protection
- Crisis intervention
- Information and referrals
- Legal advocacy
- Accompaniment to court proceedings
- Pro bono legal services for those who qualify
- Personal advocacy
- Ongoing contact with victims
- Financial assistance, including:
  - Rent assistance
  - Grocery vouchers
  - Utility assistance
  - Clothing vouchers
- A toll-free 24-hour hotline
- Support groups
- Community training

**Phone:** 883-3350

**Toll Free:** 1-800-831-9987

[www.doveslakecounty.org](http://www.doveslakecounty.org)

DOVES is located on the St. Joseph Medical Center campus — we are just west of the hospital, in the Grandview Clinic.

### Office Hours:

Monday through Friday

Walk-in hours: 9 a.m. – Noon

Appointment hours: 1 – 4 p.m.



**DOVES**

Domestic Violence  
Education & Services

**P.O. Box 1773**

**Polson, Montana 59860**

**Phone:** 883-3350

**Fax:** 883-3316

**Toll Free:** 1-800-831-9987

**Visit our website at**

[www.doveslakecounty.org](http://www.doveslakecounty.org)

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Don't just survive

# Live

**DOVES' mission is to address and prevent domestic and sexual violence in Lake County and on the Flathead Indian Reservation through community outreach, prevention education and information, and advocacy for victims of violent crime.**

## Art Therapy and Counseling Groups (and for your kids, Children's Group)

**Time:** Tuesdays from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m.

**Location:** First United Methodist Church 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Polson

**Participants:** Women who have been affected by violence

**Group Format:** Monthly rotation of Counseling and Art Therapy

DOVES Women's Groups offer an opportunity to participate in Counseling and engage in Art Therapy in a confidential, safe, and judgment-free environment.

Your level of sharing is completely up to you. We welcome you no matter where you are on your journey and believe you have the right, ability, and wisdom to grow in ways that fit best for you. While mom is at her group, her children may attend the Children's Group.

All groups are facilitated by mental health professionals with extensive experience working with domestic violence survivors.



## Men's Accountability Program (MAP Group)

The Men's Accountability Program, or MAP group, is a batterer intervention group that began in April of 2008, and meets every Wednesday in Polson. The MAP group is funded by a grant from the Office on Violence Against Women of the Department of Justice, which requires that:

- Program must be court-mandated, as opposed to voluntary.
- Program must NOT be anger management classes.
- Program must be related to specific domestic violence incident or episode.
- No option for perpetrators to enter pre-trial diversion program.
- Confidentiality of victims must be ensured.

- No mediation or couples counseling will be a part of this project.
- Program needs to use the coercive power of the criminal justice system to hold batterers accountable.

DOVES staff members track compliance with the court orders, and report back to judges/probation officers on compliant and non-compliant offenders. This gives DOVES the ability to use the coercive power of the criminal justice system to hold batterers accountable.

The MAP group is an ongoing program; each participant must attend 19 2-hour sessions (these, plus the intake and exit interviews, fulfill the 40-hour requirement mandated by Montana law).

## Legal Assistance for Victims Program

DOVES has applied for and received a Legal Assistance for Victims (LAV) grant funded through the Office on Violence Against Women of the Department of Justice. The purpose of the LAV grant is to provide legal assistance to victims of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking in Lake County and on the Flathead Reservation. A primary goal of DOVES' Legal Program is to provide access to justice to victims of domestic and sexual violence who do not have the resources to hire a lawyer.

This renewable grant has allowed both DOVES and the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes Victim Assistance Program to hire a full-time attorney. In order to qualify for any type of legal assistance through the LAV grant, the applicant must be a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault and/or stalking.

Anyone interested in applying to the

LAV program must first contact DOVES or the CSKT Victim Assistance Program. If the applicant meets grant requirements, the applicant may then fill out a LAV eligibility form, at which point the eligibility form will be evaluated by the attorney. The following are services the DOVES LAV attorneys can provide:

**Direct Representation:** LAV attorneys can provide representation to victims in civil cases, such as family law, orders of protection, and housing matters.

**Pro Se Assistance** (pro se means on your own):

- \*LAV attorneys facilitate monthly family law clinics. At the clinic, the attorney provides general information on the court system. Topics vary depending on the participants in attendance.
- \*LAV attorneys may also provide pro se assistance to victims who are not directly represented by an attorney.

