

## **Press Release**

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## South Valley Services Recognizes Domestic Violence Awareness Month

**TOOELE, UTAH**—October 2, 2023—South Valley Services (SVS), a local 501(c)(3) organization providing shelter and supportive services for domestic violence and sexual assault survivors, is recognizing Domestic Violence Awareness Month and bringing awareness to their shelter, Pathways, located in Tooele.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 of men experience intimate partner physical violence, intimate partner sexual violence, and or intimate partner stalking in their lifetimes, it deserves community interest, especially when rural Utah has been a historically underserved community and even more so when it comes to domestic violence and sexual assault services. To help bring awareness to Domestic Violence in Tooele, Utah, South Valley Services invites our community to join us October 4, 7:00 p.m. at Tooele City Hall (90 N. Main Street, Tooele) as Mayor Debbie Winn reads a proclamation declaring October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Our Pathways shelter located in Tooele has been in the community for 20 years, but for many reasons, including changing ownership, awareness of the resources in the area hasn't been high. South Valley Services would like to expand awareness to help reach more community members in need of support or looking to help with our mission.

Pathways offers emergency shelter for individuals and families fleeing domestic violence and 24-hour help line support (435-231-3557) for survivors of sexual assault/rape, domestic violence, and sex trafficking. The Pathways help line can connect survivors with essential resources, including emergency shelter, to assist clients in building violence-free futures. They provide a home-like atmosphere with trained professionals who staff our facility 24/7. Advocacy and shelter services are confidential and free of charge.

During Domestic Violence Awareness Month, SVS looking for monthly donors. Josie White, our Development Director, emphasizes, "As long as there is violence in our community, we are all susceptible to it. The good news is that help is available, and we can all make a difference in supporting survivors. Monthly donations, even \$10 a month, make a huge difference in supporting survivors as they create violence-free futures." Empowered with the resources to rely on monthly support offers us the foundation to continue expanding our services, but it starts with community support and buy-in.

For questions regarding the SVS agency and its domestic violence prevention programs, please contact:



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South Valley Services (SVS) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that has served the local community since 1998. The mission of SVS is to provide safe shelter, advocacy, case management, and prevention services to those experiencing domestic violence, including psychological, physical, emotional, economic, or sexual abuse at home. SVS aims to empower individuals to recognize their self-worth and to develop the necessary skills to reach their greatest potential, contributing to the collective well-being of our community. For more information, please visit our website at www.svsutah.org.

## **Provided Photos:**

