

Domestic Violence

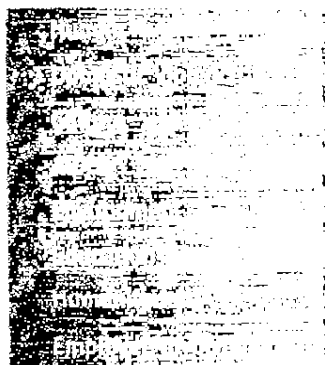
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Philip Morris is committed to the principle of Philip Morris

MAKING A DIFFERENCE in our communities

Domestic Violence Organizations

PHILIP MORRIS SITE LINKS



Are you a victim?
Do you know
someone who is?

DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE
CONFLICT
SOLUTIONS



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Studies show that in the United States a woman is battered every nine seconds. And, during the course of their lifetime, one-third of all American women will experience at least one physical assault by a partner. In fact, battering is the leading cause of injury to women ages 15 to 44 in this country.

Domestic violence is often a silent and misunderstood problem whose victims include family, friends, neighbors and colleagues. We know many of them and have been deeply touched by their stories. It is their painful experiences that have compelled us to action. But, women who have survived violent and abusive relationships know that beyond the pain there is hope.

The Philip Morris family of companies is committed to providing safety, healing and hope to domestic violence survivors. To do this, we contribute millions of dollars annually to hundreds of domestic violence organizations in all 50 states. Today, Philip Morris is a national leader in helping victims of domestic violence and in raising awareness of the issue and its devastating impact.

In addition to our grantmaking, Philip Morris has hosted 20 conferences and workshops in cities across America to educate thousands of employers about the impact of domestic violence in the workplace. We've partnered with other companies, nonprofit groups and local government to form coalitions to help educate other employers. We've sponsored public service announcements and advertising campaigns to help raise awareness among the general population. And, we've instituted internal programs to inform and support our nearly 60,000 employees in the United States.

The mission of the Philip Morris contributions program has always been aimed at meeting undeniable human needs. Few issues present a more urgent call for such assistance than the problem of domestic abuse.

All of us face the reality that our families, friends and co-workers may be affected by this terrible tragedy. Often, the workplace is the only place where battered women feel safe, and employers are beginning to recognize their role in addressing this once unspoken-of crime. As is true of all corporations, our employees include survivors of domestic abuse and others affected by it. The Philip Morris family of companies is taking the lead in addressing the problem and setting an example for other companies to follow.

DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE
PARTNERSHIPS

CHOICES

Late in the summer of 1998, a terrible fire destroyed the interior of CHOICES Page County — Virginia's first and only domestic violence shelter in the county. After assessing the damage at the shelter, the executive director of CHOICES determined that the agency's only option was to renovate what was left of the structure and reopen the shelter to serve the community. However, the cost of the renovation was expected to reach \$250,000, most of which would not be

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the renovation was expected to reach \$250,000, most of which would not be covered by insurance. CHOICES simply could not afford this. It was then that the executive director of CHOICES turned to Philip Morris for help.

With the aid of an emergency grant from Philip Morris, CHOICES was able to install two full kitchens, central air conditioning, a handicapped-accessible bathroom and bedroom, tile floors, secure windows, a new sprinkler system, a library/meeting room and an internal staircase. The new five-room facility accommodates even more clients and is handicapped-accessible. Now that the job is completed, CHOICES is equipped to help more people, more efficiently than ever before.

Philip Morris is committed to supporting organizations that respond directly to the needs of victims and their children. Our contributions will continue to include funding for similar emergency response grants. It is just one way we are able to help ease the pain for survivors of domestic violence. Through contributions such as this, we can continue our long tradition of supporting programs that address critical issues facing communities where we live and work.

Philip Morris

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