

everyone deserves a

YOUR GIFT CAN DO SO MUCH

change

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KATIE

Katie had a whirlwind courtship with her husband. They quickly moved in together, but it wasn't too long before her husband became controlling and emotionally abusive. The abuse started with yelling and screaming and slowly escalated.

She was concerned when he began demanding to drop her off and pick her up at work. When it progressed to him suggesting she should quit her job because it was interfering with their marriage, she knew she was in trouble.

“That day, I told him I would not quit my job. He became very angry and just kept yelling at me and shaking his fists at me. I knew I had to leave. I was scared.” Luckily Katie had the support of her friends and was able to move out and begin the process of starting over.

However, moving out only escalated her husband's anger. He found out where she was living and began stalking her. That's also when the abuse became physical. Everything came to a head the night he pulled her out of the car and threw her up against it. When she started to run, he tackled her to the ground. Her saving grace was that she had been on the phone with a friend who called the police. As the sirens started to blare, he grabbed her face and kissed her, telling her, “I will forgive you for this, and I still love you.”

Katie finally had enough. The Women's Center helped her develop a safety plan and file an injunction for protection. Katie is now divorced and living on her own with the confidence that she can support herself.

According to Katie, “Your help, support and guidance was essential for me to get through my time of need. While I was broken and lost, the Women's Center took the emotion out of it and helped me move forward. I know this happens to so many women. Thank you for being there.”

Every 43 minutes someone fears for their life as they suffer abuse at the hands of someone they once trusted and loved. In 2019 there were 3,626 reports of domestic violence in Brevard resulting in eight murders.



United Way of Brevard

Changing Lives and Strengthening Communities