CONTROLLING COMMUNITY VIOLENCE

The Controlling Community Violence Program was created in 1990 at the request of a Racine County judge for individuals arrested and/or convicted of domestic and non-domestic abuse violations. Referrals are made from the court, district attorney’s office, private attorneys, probation/parole and some agencies. The program is held at the church building at 8th and Main Street (745 Main Street) in Racine WI from 9am-5pm at which time a certificate of completion is given to each participant. Some of the offenses include battery, criminal damage and disorderly conduct. This program is about:

* **Creating more awareness**
* **Becoming more responsible**
* **Healing the mind, emotions, spirit**
* **Making better choices**

The intention of this program is to stop the abuse and affect positive changes in behavior and consequences. Learning new techniques of identification and release of anger, fear, and possessive control are key elements. There is a focus on creating inner clarity and self-empowerment so that a new perspective of life and relationships can become a conscious choice. There are always positive comments about the relaxation meditation that is part of the day.

After the first three years in operation, a recidivism study was conducted with good results. Of the 432 referrals in attendance the repeat offender rate was 11%. Of the 150 referral no shows, the recidivism rate was 38%. A second recidivism study from the time span 200-2003 was completed in August 2004. Of the 775 participants who completed the program, only 5 were repeat offenders. There is always a shift in attitude and energy at the completion of each program and the vast majority of evaluations are very positive.

Referral forms can be obtained by Amy Vanderhoef. Amy is located in the Racine Law Enforcement Center, Racine County Misdemeanor/Felony Court Office. The completion report is sent to the referral source following each program. We encourage the attendance of the significant other when it is appropriate.

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