



**WOMEN IN DISTRESS™**  
OF BROWARD COUNTY, INC.

ESTABLISHING S·A·F·E™  
STOP ABUSE FOR EVERYONE™

### **1. How can I get help?**

Call our Crisis Hotline at 954-761-1133.

### **2. What services does WID offer?**

WID provides a 24-hour crisis line, temporary shelter, food and clothing, individual and group counseling, children's counseling, emergency and community resources, referral services, counseling Parenting Classes, advocacy and case management, community presentations, prevention programs for schools, training for police officers and health professionals, media information, community coordination with other agencies, and more. Call the 24-hour crisis line at 954-761-1133 if your need is not on this list and we will provide you with alternative resources.

### **3. How can I access WID services?**

By calling the 24-hour crisis line at 954-761-1133. Victims may call that number and family, friends, police, judges, or social services agencies to make a referral.

### **4. Are WID services provided only to Broward residents?**

No, we will provide assistance to anyone who calls. WID is a member of the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence, a group of 42 domestic violence centers located throughout the state. While our primary service area is Broward County, WID does not deny services based on geographic location. If possible, we can refer a participant to more convenient services anywhere in the United States.

### **5. Are men eligible for participant services?**

Yes, we provide individual counseling for male victims. In shelter situations we make referrals to other agencies that have housing facilities available for men. Currently, our shelters are for women and children only.

### **6. How do you determine if a person is appropriate for counseling at WID?**

We have a screening, assessment and evaluation procedure by advocates who work with participants to develop a plan and determine needed levels of service.

**7. Do you help people with other abuse besides physical?**

Yes, our advocates provide services to Domestic Violence victims regardless of the form of domestic violence. Our Shelter services are for those victims in imminent danger.

**8. How many participants can be sheltered at once?**

We currently have 62 emergency beds located at a confidential shelter in Broward County.

**9. What is the length of time a participant can stay at the shelter?**

The average stay is 45 days, with a maximum number of approximately 60 days. But women may stay up to three months if they meet certain criteria. We tailor a success plan to meet individual participant needs.

**10. Are children sheltered with their mothers?**

Yes, women and their children live in apartments together. Mothers have responsibility to care for their children. Due to communal living aspect, with boys 14 and older, housing is determined based on space availability and a case by case basis.

**11. If the shelter is full, how does WID help women?**

As part of the Broward Homeless Initiative Partnership, WID provides referrals to other agencies with shelter services in Broward County when all our beds are full. If relocation is required, WID utilizes domestic violence shelters throughout the state or county.

**12. Where are the children while their mothers are getting services?**

Children are cared for in our children's respite facilities at the shelter and Jim and Jan Moran Family Center and are overseen by a child care specialist. While we do not provide day care throughout the day, our respite facilities allow participants to leave their children in a secure environment with trained professionals while they attend counseling sessions, case management or simply meet with a staff member. Day care and after school care is provided at various licensed facilities throughout the county with grant funds from Broward County and the state of Florida. Children also receive counseling services and supportive activities

**13. What do you do for the participants on holidays?**

The Jim and Jan Moran Family Center is closed on weekends and holidays, but our shelters operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week all year long. Holidays are special times at shelters and we try to make them special for our participants with special outings, tickets to community events, or group meals to share in the holiday spirit. The Broward County community truly embraces our participants during the holiday season with gifts, food, and tickets to activities and events.

**14. How do you help participants with housing and employment?**

By referral to the Housing Authority or to resources provided by friends of the agency and previous participants. Job opportunities and apartments with low rent are always welcome.

**15. Is there an age limit on children to enter the shelter?**

Due to the shared living arrangements in our shelter, if a participant has a son 14 or older, we evaluate each situation individually based on space available at the time or make arrangements for a more appropriate shelter or living space to provide care for the participant and her family. Outreach services are available for all ages.

**16. Do you take elderly people?**

Yes, WID helps people of all ages.

**17. Can women or men volunteer to come for counseling or do they need to be court ordered?**

Most of our participants volunteer to attend our program. We work with each participant to determine their best options for our various programs.

**18. Is there a fee to stay at the shelter? For outreach counseling?**

There is no fee for victims to stay at our shelter or for services for victims at the Jim and Jan Moran Family Center.

**19. Can pets be brought into shelter?**

Unfortunately, WID cannot accept pets into shelter at this time. However, service animals are always allowed to accompany anyone seeking our services.

**20. How is WID funded?**

WID is funded through grants, Thrift Store revenue, general contributions, special events, foundations, cities, seminar revenue, investments/ miscellaneous, and non-cash contributions.

**21. How can people donate clothing or furniture to participants?**

Donations of gently used clothing, furniture, household items and more are accepted at our Thrift Store from Tuesday through Thursday from 10am to 4pm. To make arrangements for furniture donations, please contact our Facilities Coordinator at 954-760-9800 ext. 1276. Our participants access donations from the store, since we do not give out our shelter location. Proceeds fund WID services.

**22. Will the Thrift Store pick up donations?**

Due to budget constraints we do not have a truck for pick-ups. The location for the Thrift Store is 1372 North State Road 7 in Margate (just north of Coconut Creek Parkway.) For more information, please contact our Volunteer Department at 954-760-9800 ext. 1254.

**23. Do you send advocates to do outreach work for victims who are unable to come to WID on their own?**

Satellite offices are established in an effort to reach all quadrants in the county and WID also offers services at Broward County Family Success Centers. As increased funding is obtained, WID tries to expand services to reach across Broward County.

**24. Are there any other WID shelters in Broward County or the State of Florida?**

There are 42 state-certified domestic violence centers maintaining shelters throughout Florida. WID is the only state-certified center in Broward County.