



July 1, 2020

Dear Fellow Community Members,

I am writing to provide updates regarding domestic violence services provided at S.A.F.E. House during COVID-19 protocols. This is a critical time for victims of violence. Shelter in place policies and financial hardship increase the risk of abuse. Food insecurity is already a reality for many of our survivors, and empty grocery store shelves can put them in further danger. For this reason, we are considered essential to our community and will continue to provide domestic violence services to victims.

Our goal is to provide critical services, while at the same time increasing safety. Over two weeks ago we began implementing steps to reduce the risk of viral transmission among staff and clientele, such as increasing cleaning procedures, instituting handwashing protocol, and providing fact based education from the CDC. Utilizing resources through the Nevada Coalition to End Domestic and Sexual Violence, we moved the majority of our volunteer training to online education. As of Monday, we limited the traffic in and out of our outreach office by no longer accepting non-critical donations, as well as advised Advocates and Counseling staff to transition to telephone and online communication where possible. We have also taken multiple steps at our shelter to promote safety, such as arranging sleeping assignments to increase distancing and designating rooms for possible quarantines.

We are still accepting donations of non-perishable food items, toilet paper, paper towel, and cleaning supplies by appointment only. Please contact our office at 702-451-4203 between 9am and 5pm Monday through Friday to set up a time to drop off these items. If you would like to give a monetary donation, feel free to do so through our website at <https://safehousenv.org/donate/>

Most importantly, we want all victims of domestic violence to know that S.A.F.E. House is still available to help! If you are a victim of domestic violence and are in need of assistance, please call our 24 hour crisis hotline at 702-564-3227.

Sincerely,

Julie Proctor

Executive Director