

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas has designated April as Domestic Violence Awareness month. To raise awareness and funds, each Court is asked to participate in the Lifesaver Project. Please stop after Mass and pick up a lifesaver from one of the members of the CDA Court St. George. If you would like to provide a donation for the lifesaver, the money raised will be used for domestic violence programs.

Domestic violence is prevalent in the country. South Dakota and the immediate area are not immune to domestic violence, which is defined as physical, verbal or emotional abuse between individuals in a relationship. Both adults and children can be victims of domestic violence, which affects family members, friends, and communities. Here are some sobering facts about domestic violence:

- Nationally, one in four women and one in seven men will experience severe physical violence by an intimate partner at some time during their lifetime.
- In South Dakota, the lifetime prevalence for women of rape, physical violence or stalking by an intimate partner is 33.7%.
- When looking at violent crime against women, South Dakota is ranked 7th in the nation.
- In 2017, Children's Inn (a Sioux Falls shelter for abused or neglected women and children) conducted 962 intakes, which included 557 children (150 were placed there because they were considered to be victims of abuse and/or neglect); women and children do not have to be Sioux Falls residents to receive services there.
- Annually in South Dakota, approximately 16,000 referrals are made based on suspected child abuse or neglect.
- In 2018 approximately 1587 children were taken from their homes and placed in the custody of the state.
- In 2017, five children under the age of 18 were homicide victims.

The Catholic Daughters of the Americas has designated April as Domestic Violence Awareness month. To raise awareness and funds, each Court is asked to participate in the Lifesaver Project. Please stop after Mass and pick up a lifesaver from one of the members of the CDA Court St. George. If you would like to provide a donation for the lifesaver, the money raised will be used for domestic violence programs.

Domestic violence is prevalent in the country. South Dakota and the immediate area are not immune to domestic violence, which is defined as physical, verbal or emotional abuse between individuals in a relationship. Both adults and children can be victims of domestic violence, which affects family members, friends, and communities. Here are some sobering facts about domestic violence:

- Nationally, one in four women and one in seven men will experience severe physical violence by an intimate partner at some time during their lifetime.
- In South Dakota, the lifetime prevalence for women of rape, physical violence or stalking by an intimate partner is 33.7%.
- When looking at violent crime against women, South Dakota is ranked 7th in the nation.
- In 2017, Children's Inn (a Sioux Falls shelter for abused or neglected women and children) conducted 962 intakes, which included 557 children (150 were placed there because they were considered to be victims of abuse and/or neglect); women and children do not have to be Sioux Falls residents to receive services there.
- Annually in South Dakota, approximately 16,000 referrals are made based on suspected child abuse or neglect.
- In 2018 approximately 1587 children were taken from their homes and placed in the custody of the state.
- In 2017, five children under the age of 18 were homicide victims.