

## From the Heart of the Victim

*The questions are endless,  
the answers infrequent.*

*How did this journey begin,  
can I ever go back?*

*I want my life,  
my happiness,  
my freedom,  
my peace  
and no more pain.*

*These mental bars  
across his heart  
are bars that cage me in.*

*Please set him free  
I pray,  
to save me  
for another day...*

Author, Dee Lynn  
Survivor



## LET US INTRODUCE OURSELVES!



The fear is endless, the pain far reaching... I should know, several years ago I found myself captivated by the charm of a man who would soon be my husband. Little did I know what path my life would take in the next days, months and years to come. That young lady who once helped others found herself in a situation where she couldn't help herself. That charismatic and charming man who was a community leader was also the perpetrator of domestic violence.

How does it begin? People think the victim should have been able to see the signs in advance. How wrong that belief is. It's a process of degradation, put downs, humiliation and then rages that take on a life of their own. You're always walking on eggshells, terrified of one misspoken word, the kindness to a stranger that is mistaken for flirtation, having family or friends visit which doesn't coincide with his plans for your continued isolation and then the physical abuse, small in the beginning that in time leaves you with an injury inconceivable and unexplainable to others.

As a former victim, I saw a void in the gap of services that victims need to regain their lives. I've lived the hidden secret and know the fear of coming forward. I've seen the results of leaving. I know the courage and strength it takes to reclaim ones life. In time, you too will know what it's like to feel a sense of empowerment against your perpetrator. I've traveled the journey to a wonderful tomorrow. You can too. We're here to show you the way and to help you gain the resources you need to be successful. You now have someone to walk with you as you move forward to a better tomorrow. Let's do it together, "people helping people," one step at a time.

Dee Lynn, Founder  
WISH (When in Search of Hope)

Contact WISH  
704.277.4270  
info@wishforhope.org  
or on the web at [www.wishforhope.org](http://www.wishforhope.org)



WISH – When in Search of Hope  
P.O. BOX 49552  
Charlotte, NC 28277



PROVIDING SUPPORT AND RESOURCES FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE  
**FIGHT**  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



To set up a confidential appointment  
call, 704.277.4270 or email  
info@wishforhope.org

If you are in immediate danger, call 911

**THE NATIONAL DOMESTIC  
VIOLENCE HOTLINE**

Anonymous and Confidential  
assistance 24/7

**800.799.SAFE (7233)**  
**800.757.3224 (TTY)**



As violence against women becomes more severe and more frequent in the home, children are 300% more likely to experience physical violence from a male batterer.

## WISH MISSION AND GOALS

To advocate for victims of domestic violence, including abused and at-risk youth.

**WISH** provides courage when there is none, a friend when there is no one and hope for a new life.

- **WISH** seeks to free victims of domestic abuse by providing friendship, evaluation, intervention, advocacy, education, prevention, referrals and resources.
- **WISH** provides one-on-one guidance and support to victims while determining specific needs.
- **WISH**, with the support of our Community Resource Partners, connects victims with the resources they need to start a new life.

### HOW YOU CAN HELP SUPPORT WISH:

- Become a **WISH Corporate Sponsor**
- Become a **WISH Corporate Partner**
- Become a **WISH Community Resource Partner**
- Become a **WISH Donor**
- Become a **WISH Volunteer**
- Become part of the **WISH SOLUTION**

 **Help Stop Domestic Violence**



[www.wishforhope.org](http://www.wishforhope.org)

# WISH (WHEN IN SEARCH OF HOPE)

By helping to **EMPOWER** victims and addressing the root of the problem **WISH** seeks to break the cycle of abuse.

### DID YOU KNOW...

In 2009, domestic violence killed 131 people in North Carolina.

According to some statistics, more than 50,000 women have been killed by their husbands or partners in the past 10 years.

Every 9 seconds a woman is physically assaulted within her home.

An estimated three to four million women are battered each year.

Twenty-five percent of married women experience violence on a recurring basis.

Children who witness violence grow up believing that violence is a reasonable alternative to solving problems.

Sixty percent of children from violent homes become abusive adults.

Medical expenses from domestic violence total at least \$3 to \$5 billion annually.

Businesses forfeit \$100 million in lost wages, sick leave, absenteeism and non-productivity.

The F.B.I. estimates that one out of two women will be physically abused at some point in their lives by men with whom they live, regardless of race or socioeconomic status.

### PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE:

*All of us need to and can be part of the solution.*

*If you see abuse it is your responsibility to report it.*

### THE WISH DIFFERENCE:

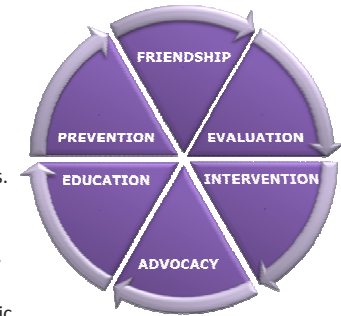
**WISH** is founded by a former victim, **now survivor**, whose unique vision and understanding focuses on the **needs** of the victims.

**WISH** provides friendship, evaluation, intervention, advocacy, education and prevention in an effort to free victims from domestic violence and to break the cycle of abuse.

**WISH** provides the support, referrals and resources a victim needs to regain their life.

**WISH** provides a safe environment to help victims find freedom from physical pain, threats, intimidation, shame and fear.

**WISH** understands that hope, courage and **EMPOWERMENT** are part of the healing process.



### WISH OFFERS:

- Friendship
- One-on-One Guidance
- Danger Assessment
- Safety Plan Development
- Resources and Information
- Evaluation Program
- Apprentice Program
- Youth Program
- Inmate Program
- Speakers Bureau
- Workshops
- Support Groups
- Women's Auxiliary



### WAYS TO FINANCIALLY SUPPORT WISH:

*(Please check one.)*

- Corporate Sponsor**
- Corporate Partner**
- Event Sponsor**
- General Donation**

Company: \_\_\_\_\_ *(Your sponsorship or donation is appreciated.)*

Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_  Check Enclosed: (\$) \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  Credit Card: (\$) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ ( ) Visa ( ) MC ( ) Amex

Contact Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Card Holder: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ CSV/3-digit: \_\_\_\_\_