

SafeHouse Center's Teen Voice Program

February 26th, 2020

SafeHouse Center Services

- SafeHouse Center provides support for those impacted by domestic violence and/or sexual assault
- We are funded to provide domestic violence services to survivors of intimate partner violence
- Our services are available to all survivors who live, work or attend school in Washtenaw County
- Our Services are free and confidential



SafeHouse Center Services for Youth

- 24/7 Helpline (734) 995-5444
 - Anonymous and confidential assistance for survivors. Offers resources and can answer questions
- Walk-in Support
 - 9 am to 5 pm Monday-Friday at SafeHouse Center
- Legal Advocacy*
- Counseling*
 - Up to 6 months
- Drop-in Support Groups*
 - Monday: Sexual Assault
 - 6 pm – 7:30 pm
 - Thursday: Domestic Violence
 - 6 pm – 7:30 pm
- *Currently on hiatus*
 - 8 Week group for teen, female identifying survivors of sexual assault
 - LGBTQIA+ drop in group

****14 and up with parental permission***

Statistics

- 1 in 3 adolescents in the U.S. is a victim of physical, sexual, emotional, or verbal abuse from a dating partner
- More than 80% of parents believe that teen dating violence isn't an issue
- 50% of adolescents who experienced both physical abuse and sexual abuse attempt suicide (compared to 12.5% of non-abused girls and 5.4% of non-abused boys)
- Teens who had abusive relationships are more than twice as likely to experience abusive adult relationships

Victim Blaming

- Well-meaning adults might say things like:

“Oh, that just means they like you”

or

“We accept the love we think we deserve”

- Why don't we ask:

“Why do they hurt someone they say they love or care about?”

Focus on Perpetrator's behavior NOT the Survivor's behavior

Who is Teen Voice?

- A peer education group made up of volunteer high school students from Washtenaw County
- 13 Current Members
 - Pioneer – 4 members
 - Saline – 1 member
 - Community – 3 members
 - WIHI – 2 members
 - Huron – 3 members

What We Do

- Peer Educator Training*
- Weekly Meetings*
- Presentations*
- Community events
- SafeHouse-Sponsored Community events
 - DVAM, TDVAM, SAAM
- Field Trips/Community Partner Visits
 - Take Back the Night
 - Collaborations with Planned Parenthood and The Neutral Zone

Peer Educator Training

- Each member of Teen Voice receives training in:
 - SHC services
 - Domestic Violence 101
 - Sexual Assault 101
 - Bias, Oppression, and Privilege
 - Women Who Use Force
 - SANE exams
 - CSS's ADA program
 - The Teen Voice presentation itself

Weekly Meetings

Wednesday evenings from 6:30 - 8:00 pm at SafeHouse

- Logistics
 - Upcoming presentations
 - Events
 - Program updates
- Current event discussions
 - Not limited to DV/SA-specific
- Continuing Education
 - Domestic Violence
 - Sexual Assault
 - Related topics

Our Presentation

- Designed to accommodate a classroom of up to 35 students
- ~ 1 hour long
- Covers dating violence, sexual assault, consent, healthy relationships, and SafeHouse Center services for youth
- Fosters conversation and interaction
 - Power and Control Wheel exercise, Consent is like Tea video, Kahoot scenarios
- Facilitated by two teens with a staff member present
- Students complete a pre and a post survey to measure the effectiveness of the presentation

How to Request a Presentation

1. Go to the SafeHouse Center website
2. Click “Community” tab
3. Click “Request a Teen Voice Presentation”
4. Fill out online form
5. SHC staff will follow up and confirm dates

* Please note we are only able to accommodate presentation requests during the school year

How to Join Teen Voice

- Must be a currently enrolled high school student in Washtenaw County
- [Safehousecenter.org](https://www.safehousecenter.org) → Volunteer Tab or use the QR code on the handout
- Students earn a stipend for participating
- Applications are accepted on a rolling basis
- After completing the application, students complete an interview with me and go through training

Questions?