

# Hyde County Hotline

24 Hour Crisis Line 252-925-2500

December 2015

**Domestic Violence**  
doesn't **Stop** for Christmas



WHEN IT'S HARD TO TALK  
IT'S UP TO US TO LISTEN

## PEACE Sponsors - \$1,000

Capt Neill's Seafood  
Sawyer's Land Developing  
Middle Creek Farms, Inc.  
Tim Whitfield Aviation, Inc.

## DIGNITY Sponsor - \$500

AgCarolina Farm Credit

### Sponsor Tables

Capt Neill's Seafood  
Tim Whitfield Aviation  
Mattamuskeet Seafood  
Striking Bay Shellfish

Hyde County Hotline's  
5<sup>th</sup> Annual Gala



*Unmasquerade Ball*

Saturday, November 21, 2015

*Was a huge success!*

*We would like to thank everyone that contributed to this  
year's event.*

To donate to next year's event, please call 252-925-2502.

Thank you for your support!

*All donations are tax-deductible and tax donation forms will be mailed to you from  
Hyde County Hotline upon request.*

## Trillium Access Point Kiosks

Trillium Health Resources, in partnership with Hyde County and the NC Division of Health & Human Services, has located an Access Point Kiosk in the Hyde County Government building. This kiosk will allow a person to take any of seven evidenced-based screenings for behavioral health concerns, including depression, alcohol use, post-traumatic stress disorder, bipolar disorder, teen depression, anxiety, and eating disorders. The kiosk will also allow the individual to connect to Trillium's Access to Care line using the direct line phone attached to the kiosk. This type of kiosk with the direct connect phone option is one of two developed in the state by Trillium and is accessible for individuals in wheelchairs. Participants can sit down to take the screenings, view educational information about behavioral health issues; get referral information which includes connecting to Trillium's Network Provider Directory; and see resources, articles, and even send the information and results to any email address.

The screenings are completely anonymous, confidential and free. Individuals can also take the screenings as a web-based version in the privacy of their home using tablets or smart phones.

The Access Point screening can also be accessed directly at [www.TrilliumNCAccessPoint.org](http://www.TrilliumNCAccessPoint.org)

For more information please visit  
[www.TrilliumHealthResources.org](http://www.TrilliumHealthResources.org)

### How you can help...

- \*\*Donate to our Thrift Stores – call us for pick-up of large items 252-925-2502 (all donations are tax deductible)
- \*\*Ask us about presentations \*\*Ask how we can help you
- \*\* Tell others about us
- \*\*Monetary donations are accepted: PO Box 335, Engelhard, NC 27824

### OUR MISSION:

The purpose of Hyde County Hotline, Inc. is to work to eliminate domestic abuse and sexual victimization and provide safe shelter in Hyde County, North Carolina through the collaborative efforts of a compassionate community.

We promote dignity, respect and safety at home resulting in safer communities.

### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOMICIDES IN NC

from January 1 –November 27, 2015

**44 Murders**

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



Taking care of your health means paying attention to your body and your mind.

Visit [www.TrilliumNCAccessPoint.org](http://www.TrilliumNCAccessPoint.org)

- Take a confidential screening.
- Search the provider network.
- Learn about behavioral health issues.



We're on the Web!  
Visit us at:  
[www.hydecountryhotline.org](http://www.hydecountryhotline.org)



- Develop a signal, such as turning porch or holiday lights on and off repeatedly, to alert neighbors that you are in danger
- Establish a password or phrase, such as the word "eggnog," to let others know that you are unsafe or cannot talk privately
- Start new traditions – If you normally go to a certain family member's home for holiday dinners or parties – consider changing the location or doing something different
- Use a Post Office Box or no-return address when mailing holiday cards to conceal your whereabouts
- Identify a family member, close friend or neighbor who can provide support and intervention if necessary
- Use the increased family time as a way to minimize alone time with your abuser
- Use store coupons for holiday shopping and keep the savings for emergencies
- Protect your health by keeping all medical and counseling appointments during holiday season.
- Avoid shopping at your usual places if you're afraid your abuser might find you there
- Avoid isolated or unlighted parking lot areas, and don't walk alone to your car if your abuser might know where you park
- Carry a cell phone at all times to call 911 if necessary
- Talk to an advocate at the [local domestic violence program](#) for more safety ideas

For full article, go to:

<http://www.pcadv.org/News/12-Tips-Holidays-2014/>

## December 2015 – Free Online Training

### National Judicial Education Program Webinar

#### Raped or "Seduced"? How Language Helps Shape Our Response to Sexual Violence

**Date/Time:** December 10, 2015, 2:00-3:30 Central Time

**Presented by:** Claudia J. Bayliff, Project Attorney, National Judicial Education Program, Legal Momentum

**Webinar Description:** "Language can never be neutral; it creates versions of reality."<sup>1</sup> Yet when we discuss sexual assault, we constantly use the language of consensual sex to describe assaultive acts. This language often implies consent and romance, rather than criminal acts. In addition, we describe violence against women in passive terms, allowing the perpetrators of this violence to remain invisible and unaccountable. We also use language that objectifies or blames sexual assault victims.

This interactive webinar will explore the language of sexual assault: how we talk about and write about this crime. We will discuss specific examples of the language we use and explore how to discuss sexual assault in a way that more accurately depicts the crime.

1. Bavelas, Janet and Linda Coates, Is it Sex or Assault: Erotic Versus Violent Language in Sexual Assault Trial Judgment, 10 JOURNAL OF SOCIAL DISTRESS AND THE HOMELESS 29 (2001).

If you have questions or problems registering for this webinar, please contact Lena Barsky, NJEP Program Associate, at [lbarsky@legalmomentum.org](mailto:lbarsky@legalmomentum.org).

[Register Now](#)

**THRIFT  
SHOP**

## Hyde Supply



Open Thursday – Saturday 10:00 – 4:00

Hyde Supply Thrift Store offers gently used, quality clothing, housewares, furniture, books, accessories and many other items to the public at low prices.

Abuse victims and their children often leave with literally only the clothes on their backs. The thrift stores are able to help an abused family quickly regain one of the basic needs of life that we so often take for granted and begin to restore some of the dignity stripped away by abuse.

Volunteers are vital to the organization's overall functioning and success.

Hyde County Hotline is a private, non-profit organization in Hyde County dedicated to promoting dignity, respect and safety at home resulting in safer communities.

Time, Money, and Merchandise are all needed and greatly appreciated. Thank you for your support!

All proceeds from the Hyde Supply Thrift Store go to support the Hyde County Hotline mission. All donations are tax-deductible and tax donation forms will be mailed to you from Hyde County Hotline upon request.

**Thank you to the Family Violence Prevention  
Services Program, US DHHS, and NC  
Council for Women for financial support.**



## Threatened Not To Testify

**When abusers threaten survivors from telling their account in court, it's considered witness tampering**

November 23, 2015

By domesticshelters.org

<https://www.domesticshelters.org/domestic-violence-articles-information/threatened-not-to-testify#.VmBP9oddGUK>

Batterers are not always career criminals like the drug dealers on the corner who are constantly getting arrested. They can be professionals, church-goers and soccer dads. And, they know that having a criminal record of domestic violence puts the things most important to them at risk. Which means they'll do just about anything to avoid a conviction—including threatening survivors into recanting their stories in court or refusing to testify altogether, a practice called witness tampering.

“Witness tampering is rampant; it's something we deal with every day,” says David Martin, senior deputy prosecuting attorney, who specializes in domestic violence for King County in Washington state. “It's not just that they're not showing up. They are also changing their recollection of events.”

Victim recantation can be detrimental to a domestic violence case since abuse often takes place privately with no other witnesses. It's particularly difficult to get a conviction when there is little or no other evidence of abuse than the victim's testimony.

Unfortunately, witness tampering is something prosecutors know they have to deal with. “Batterers are very good at manipulation. In some cases, they'll say ‘If you testify, I'll kill you.’ But, often, the manipulation is much more sophisticated,” Martin says. “They'll start laying the groundwork by redefining the abuse narrative and reminding the victim of their common visions of love and success. And then they'll reestablish the cycle of violence. They're experts at doing it.”

Prosecutors are on the lookout for witness tampering and often can tell when it's going on because the victim will stop being cooperative or returning phone calls. If the abuser is in jail, jail phone records are checked.

“We can get a report from the jail and usually it'll show that the victim's phone number had been called many, many times,” Martin says.

The good news is that prosecutors can use recorded jail conversations and other evidence of witness tampering in court. They also use these recorded calls to try and catch witness tampering early in order to work with the survivor to help him or her decide what is in his or her best interest.

“When we uncover the tampering that's going on, we try to give the victim enough confidence to come forward and tell their story,” he says. “But we also have to keep the victim's best interest in mind. If someone is really adamant about not participating, we look at whether there are truly good reasons for that or if they are being tampered with.”

Even if a victim ultimately decides not to participate in the justice process, that does not mean prosecutors turn their backs.

“Advocacy is critical in what we're doing,” he says. “An important part of victim advocacy is working with victims even when they say they don't want to participate in the legal process. Sometimes people will overcome the tampering and sometimes they won't. Either way, we will still provide the services needed.”

If your abuser makes threats in an attempt to keep you from testifying or telling the truth in court, report the threats to the police and alert your case prosecutor. One way batterers manipulate survivors to keep them from testifying is by threatening to sue them for defamation in civil court. Learn more about this practice and how you can protect yourself against a civil court case in “How Anti-SLAPP Laws Work.”