



Elephant in The Room Q & A

Central Greene School District (DVSSP)
Fall 2022

**This document can also be accessed at <https://www.bloom365.org/faqs>

Resources:

For additional resources, please visit [bloom365.org/resources](https://www.bloom365.org/resources)

<p>BLOOM365 Peer Support Helpline</p>	<p>Text or call a BLOOM365 advocate for free, confidential support. Text/Call: 1-888-606-HOPE (4673) Monday-Friday from 3PM-9PM (MST)</p> <p>To reach a specific advocate directly, please feel free to contact our Helpline and tell us who you would like to speak to.</p>
<p>Domestic Violence Services of Southwestern PA (DVSSP)</p>	<p>24/7 Hotline www.peacefromdv.org/hotline WASHINGTON COUNTY: 800-791-4000 or 724-223-9190 GREENE COUNTY: 724-852-2463 FAYETTE COUNTY: 724-439-9500</p>
<p>Teen Lifeline</p>	<p>Text or call 602-248-TEEN (8336) for free, confidential support 24/7 relating to suicide, depression, bullying, or relationships.</p>
<p>National Teen Dating Violence Hotline</p>	<p>Text "LOVEIS" to 22522 24/7</p>
<p>National Domestic Violence Hotline</p>	<p>1-800-799-SAFE (7233)</p>
<p>National Sexual Assault Hotline</p>	<p>1-800.656.HOPE (4673)</p>
<p>Suicide Prevention Lifeline</p>	<p>1-800-273-TALK (8255)</p>

***Content Warning:** For some, Elephant in the Room Cards are places where they might disclose trauma, violence, or harm. We encourage you to proceed with caution if you have experienced power-based violence or abuse of any kind. If you need support, you can reach out to the Hotlines listed above.

Q: Student

A: BLOOM365 Advocate

Q: You only specialize in domestic violence. Does that include child abuse? If so, what is the definition of it. What exactly do you guys do about it?

A: Child abuse can be part of domestic violence. The CDC defines child abuse and neglect (also referred to generally as child maltreatment) as "any act or series of acts of commission or omission by a parent or other caregiver (e.g., clergy, coach, teacher) that results in harm, potential for harm, or threat of harm to a child." DVSSP offers the following services for individuals that have witnessed or experienced interpersonal violence, including child abuse:

- Prevention efforts in the community aimed at changing knowledge, attitudes, beliefs, and behaviors to prevent domestic violence from happening in the first place
- Temporary safe houses
- 24-hour hotlines
- Empowerment counseling and support groups for residents and non-residents
- Legal advocacy programs
- Housing and homelessness prevention services
- Mental health assessments and therapy for residents and non-residents
- Counseling and support services for children and youth
- Community education and training programs
- Formal evaluation to ensure superior services and programming
- Information and referrals
- Advocacy and accompaniment
- 24-hour transportation and intake
- Food, clothing, and personal care items for residents

For more information on services and resources, please contact your local DVSSP Hotline number listed above. You can also find more information on the DVSSP website [HERE](#).

Q: What exactly do you wish to get out of this program? Do you really think it helps? What makes you think it may not worsen it?

A: Our team at BLOOM365 believes that it is possible to prevent abuse before it starts. We have partnered with DVSSP to offer the BringLove365 7-Dose curriculum in order to teach young people in PA about healthy versus unhealthy relationships, and to encourage young people to seek support if they or someone they know has witnessed or experienced interpersonal violence, as well as encouraging those who might be acting with power and control to seek support to make a positive change. We believe that by providing education programs like the BringLove365 7-Dose Curriculum, we can collectively address the risk and protective factors (on the individual, relationship, community, and societal levels) that impact all individuals in order to promote healthy, non-violent relationships in our communities and

prevent abuse before it starts. At BLOOM365, we measure our impact through programs like the 7 Dose Curriculum by examining the anonymous iClicker surveys that students participate in throughout the Doses, as well as taking the feedback cards into consideration. For more information on violence prevention strategies, including teen dating violence prevention, please visit www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention. For more information on BLOOM365's mission and vision, please visit www.bloom365.org/mission. If you'd like to talk more about this topic or if you'd like support for anything else, please reach out to BLOOM365's HelpLine or contact your county's corresponding hotline for DVSSP listed above.

Q: What if someone in the room was in a abusive relationship, and now, their abuser knew they might've tried to contact you? Wouldn't that increase the possibility of that person's death.

A: Safety can be a big concern for a lot of people, especially for those in abusive relationships. We appreciate you asking this question. DVSSP and BLOOM365 are committed to prioritizing the safety of those who reach out by ensuring that our services are confidential. We also encourage individuals to prioritize their own safety and wellbeing, and sometimes that might look like borrowing a friend's phone to contact a hotline, or using a shared computer in a public space, like a library, to be sure there's no digital history on their own personal devices. Reaching out for help can be scary, and we want to remind you that both DVSSP and BLOOM365 Advocates are available to offer additional support and information as needed.