



ADVANCING THE COMMON GOOD BY FOCUSING ON THE BUILDING BLOCKS FOR A BETTER LIFE

United Way recruits people and organizations from all across the community who bring the passion, expertise and resources needed to get things done.

Lucy was in court the morning after her husband smashed furniture, held a knife to her son's throat, loaded a gun, and bashed her car with a lead pipe. As an advocate, I listened to her story, taking notes as she spoke, so that I could guide her through the written part of her narrative for the restraining order she was taking out. She kept asking, "What is going on? How can I still care about him?" I tried to answer the questions in a supportive, non-threatening way, remembering the empowerment model we learned during advocacy training. We got through this difficult morning, and she received her restraining order.



Namaste meditation garden at New Beginnings shelter.

"People in crisis are so confused and conflicted by the traumatic events they've endured that they have trouble thinking straight. Being an advocate, means validating feelings, supporting whatever decisions a person is ready to make, and helping them through their process. It is valuable work."

New Beginnings Advocate

Due to the extreme nature of the abuse, Lucy has memory loss and is having difficulty with day to day life. I have referred her to local mental health agencies, support groups, and legal services. Painful as the process is, Lucy is committed to rebuilding her life. Lucy and I talk several times a week. She has told me on multiple occasions she could not have achieved what she has done without the support of the Crisis Center Advocates.



Living United means seeing that difficult problems, such as family violence effect us all, and that by working together we can begin to address the conditions that contribute to these problems.

"Reach out a hand to one, and influence the condition of all."
To learn more, or to show your support, visit www.LRUW.org

