

Abstract

According to the national domestic violence hotline (2020), domestic violence “(also referred to as intimate partner violence (IPV), dating abuse, or relationship abuse) is a pattern of behaviors used by one partner to maintain power and control over another partner in an intimate relationship” (National Domestic Violence Hotline, 2020). Domestic Violence is everywhere and unfortunately does not discriminate. Cherokee Family Violence Center is a nonprofit organization working towards ending domestic violence. Their mission is “to enhance the safety of those impacted by intimate partner violence through services that empower victims while advocating for a community standard of zero tolerance for violence in the home” (Cherokee Family Violence Center, 2020). The Cherokee Family Violence Center’s Emergency Shelter is providing service to at least 12 moms on up to a 90-day cycle. The Emergency Shelter Director alongside of the children’s department director is looking to implement a new program within the shelter to help children and families cope with the trauma that the children have experienced as a result of the domestic violence through meeting with child advocates on a weekly basis to learn how to manage their trauma through activities that help with anger management, coping skills, expressing feelings, etc. The overall goal of this program is to assist children living in Cherokee Family Violence Center’s Emergency Shelter and Housing Complex cope with their current and past trauma caused by domestic violence. In order to achieve this goal, qualitative and quantitative data is gathered through interviews and questionnaires in order to establish a multi-disciplinary approach to children that have been affected by domestic violence. Through these questionnaires, the parents will be able to give an accurate description of how the child is responding to the program and how effective the child’s coping mechanisms are as a result of

participating in the program. Through this program design, overall support, coping mechanisms, structure, health, and self-esteem will be enhanced and drastically improved.

Keywords: *Domestic violence, trauma*

Reference

Cherokee Family Violence Center. (2020). Retrieved September 16, 2020, from <https://cfvc.org/>

National Domestic Violence Hotline (2020). Understand Relationship Abuse.

www.thehotline.org/identify-abuse/understand-relationship-abuse/.