

## Domestic Violence

### Why Does She Stay: Barriers to Leaving

1. Denial of the batterer to friends, family, the community and herself
2. Fears
  - a. Fear of the violence escalating or of the batterer killing her, the children, or family and friends
  - b. Fear of being alone
  - c. Fear of deportation if she is an immigrant
3. Children
  - a. Her feelings that her children need a father
  - b. Fear she will lose her children
  - c. Fear that her abuser will hurt her children if she tries to leave
4. Beliefs/feelings
  - a. Perceptions that battering is normal
  - b. Religious, social and cultural beliefs
  - c. Hope that he will change
  - d. Shame
  - e. Embarrassment
  - f. Love for the batterer
5. Service Barriers
  - a. Lack of community resources
  - b. Language or cultural barriers
  - c. Isolation
6. Economic Factors
  - a. May depend on abuser for financial support
7. Other Personal Factors
  - a. Substance abuse problems
  - b. Disability
  - c. Low self-esteem

Call FVRC to craft a safety plan and work through the barriers.

**Family Violence & Rape Crisis Services**  
**919-542-5445**  
**24-hour Crisis Line: 919-545-0224**  
**Walk-in hours: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.**  
**200 East St., Pittsboro**  
**144 N. Chatham St., Siler City**