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2575 N SR 9, Lagrange, IN, 46761

April 2026

LaGrange and Steuben County Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Resources Working Hard Daily

Behind every hurt in our community there is a team of individuals working to make tomorrow safer, happier, and healthier for at least one more person. Let me shine a light on the team work behind the scenes that takes place to end domestic and sexual violence in our community.

Local non profits started by concerned citizens who knew someone or were effected by domestic violence or sexual assault spoke an idea into existence with the help of individuals inspired to make positive change. Elijah Haven and TLC House where two of these non profits. Elijah Haven has been serving LaGrange County since 1996 and Steuben County since 2021 through a small shelter and agency services. TLC House has been sheltering survivors of domestic violence since 2011 and creating the framework for services long before that.

Each county has government employees on staff who felt the call to serve and support those who have experienced a crime and are going through the legal process to gain justice. LaGrange Counties Brandy Lowe and Steuben Counties Autumn Ice serve as victim advocates in the court house. Local police and sheriff departments who respond to domestic violence calls often deescalate situations, inform victims of local help, and/or make police reports and investigate later reported incidents. Other agencies like DCS are filled with individuals seeking to protect the most vulnerable. They investigate and create safety focused plans to facilitate healthy growth through the connection of resources and accountability.

Some individuals already serving people in medical emergencies, chose to continue their training to help those seeking medical attention for sexual assault. Cameron Hospital has had and recently increased, in emergency room sexual assault nurses. Prior to having nurses locally, who help survivors of sexual assault survivors had to travel to Fort Wayne Sexual Assault Treatment Center. Sexual assault forensic examinations collect DNA evidence, which decreases in availability as time increases. The ability to have nurses capable of doing forensic examinations locally is extremely impactful to our community. Nurses are also specially trained to treat survivors with the care and reassurance that an individual who has been through an extremely traumatic experience needs.

Beyond immediate crisis intervention services there are so many other agencies and individuals involved in providing aid. These might include Turning Point, Agape Missions, Food and Clothing Basket, Fremont Youth and Community Outreach Food Pantry, Children First Center, Iris, WIC, Faith Community Health Clinic, St. Martins Mobile Clinic, Bowen Health and Northeaster Center, Ministerial Associations, St. Vincent De Paul and many, many more.

The passion for helping others doesn't stop there. These agencies communicate, strategize, and train each other, to make sure needs are being met and resources are being used efficiently. There are Interagency/ Partners Meetings to discuss and share community resources, events, and data track. There are county wide resource mapping and strategy sessions held to fill gaps. There are training events held by Crossroads United Way, local community foundations, agencies, and individuals. These events bring awareness to the community about sexual assault, domestic violence, crisis intervention, grant writing, business ethics, ect.

So fear not there are people working to make a positive change for future generations. If you feel the call to help don't feel like you need a career change. Just donate your time, money or specialized services. Teach your children to help others and give back whenever they can. You can help create a safer, happier, healthier community too.

YOU CAN HELP

Individuals wishing to assist Elijah Haven in caring for victims of domestic violence may do so in a variety of ways:

Monetarily. Send donations to Elijah Haven Crisis Intervention Center, PO Box 198, LaGrange, IN 46761

Or online at elijahhaven.org

Volunteer. Crisis Line Operators are needed as well as volunteers to transport clients to and from group counseling. Please contact Kathy @ (260) 463-8700

Donate items. Victims housed in the shelter need personal hygiene items, toilet paper, paper towels, pillows, towels, and household cleaning supplies

Gas cards and gift cards for groceries are also greatly needed and appreciated.



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Thank You

Our Community Is The Best!!

We have recently posted some client needs on our Facebook page and the community poured out in response and met every need. Individuals choosing to help their neighbor one item at a time. Making positive change.

Prince of Peace Church donated a massive amount of resources for our resource closet. Our clients were so happy to have access to the new items!

Interra Credit Union and other local churches and individuals gave generous donations these past three months.

We are so thankful for all the support and the lives changed through the continuous donations of our community!

Contributions and Grants Received

- DVPT and VOCA Grant
- REMC Operation Roundup
- Donor Advised- LaGrange
- Local Churches, Individuals,
& Businesses



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