From: DCF BWF Work Programs Help Desk <BWFWorkProgramsHD@wisconsin.gov> **Sent:** Tuesday, June 8, 2021 10:56 AM

To: DCF DL DFES BWF W-2 Agency Directors <DCFDLDFESBWFW2AgencyDirectors@wisconsin.gov>; DCF DL DFES BWF TJ TMJ <DCFDLDFESBWFTJTMJ@wisconsin.gov>; DCF DL DFES BWF W-2 Agency CARES Coordinators <DCFDLW-2AgencyCARESCoordinators@wisconsin.gov> Subject: Sojourner launches 24-hour text line for domestic violence survivors + Flyer

Hello,

This email is to inform you of the Sojourner Family Peace Center and their new textline.

Sojourner is excited to announce that our **24-Hour Domestic Violence Textline** has officially launched for domestic violence survivors. The new DV Textline phone number is **(414) 877-8100**. We are asking you to please share the new DV Textline number with clients, team members, and the community.

Texting creates a new, accessible way for domestic violence survivors to seek help. Survivors often report a lack of privacy makes it difficult to call and discuss concerns over a family member or partner's abusive or violent behavior. In addition, many survivors prefer texting due to anxiety, a disability, or out of fear.

"Our goal is to make it as easy as possible for survivors to connect with us," said Carla Washington, Vice President of Programs and Chief Partnership Officer. "We've adapted and evolved to meet survivors where they are, using communication channels they prefer. We want to make our services as accessible as possible."

The textline complements Sojourner's 24-hour domestic violence phone line, which receives over 15,000 calls from survivors, community members and law enforcement annually.

"We continue to see the pandemic's impact on domestic violence and the people we serve," said Washington. "Survivors are experiencing horrendous acts of abuse and violence and many people lack the privacy needed to make a phone call that could save their life. We hope that adding the option to text us for help removes a critical barrier to seeking safety."

See attached 24-Hour Domestic Violence Textline flyer.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Carla Washington Vice President of Programs & Chief Partnership Officer carlaw@familypeacecenter.org Sojourner Family Peace Center 619 W Walnut Street Milwaukee, WI 53212 Phone: 414-810-1835

BWF Work Programs Help Desk

Bureau of Working Families Division of Family and Economic Security Department of Children and Families

201 W. Washington Ave Madison, WI 53703 *F*: 608.422-6271 *E*: <u>BWFWORKPROGRAMSHD@wisconsin.gov</u>



Sojourner's 24-hour Domestic Violence Textline

Text (414)-877-8100 anytime



Text anytime to communicate with a confidential advocate if you are experiencing domestic violence and want to seek help.

> A complement to Sojourner's 24-hour domestic violence hotline (414) 933-2722

