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Welcome to the Anti-Violence Project

The Anti-Violence Project (AVP) at the Center on Halsted empowers lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and HIV-affected communities and allies to end all forms of violence through organizing and education, and supports survivors through counseling and advocacy.

AVP at Center on Halsted provides comprehensive individual and community programs for survivor advocacy and support to LGBTQIA survivors of hate and bias violence, discrimination, intimate partner violence, stalking, and/or sexual assault. If you or someone you know has experienced violence, threats, or intimidation AVP can work with you to help ensure your safety and provide the support you need.

AVP at the Center on Halsted is also a founding member of the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs (NCAVP). NCAVP works to prevent, respond to, and end all forms of violence against and within LGBTQ communities. NCAVP is a national coalition of local member programs and affiliate organizations who create systemic and social change. They strive to increase power, safety, and resources through data analysis, policy advocacy, education and technical assistance.

Programs and Services

Getting Immediate Assistance after Violence

LGBTQ Violence Resource Line: [773.871.CARE \(2273\)](tel:773.871.CARE) or avp@centeronhalsted.org

What Happens When You Call AVP for Assistance:

- First, rest assured that all calls are kept strictly confidential. And can be made anonymously.
- We will guide you through a simple process of information gathering about the incident, and about yourself.
- There are no requirements. You are allowed to share the level of information that is comfortable for you. You may even choose to report anonymously.
- AVP will help you explore your options and potential courses of action as well as assist in developing a safety plan.
- Keep in mind there is no requirement to make a police report; however, if you choose to make a police report, we can explain the procedure and provide in person support and advocacy throughout the process.
- After your initial contact with AVP, we will still be there for you. We can assist and accompany you through all steps in the process.
- With permission, we will add your report to our compilation of local and national statistics which are released each year. These reports do not contain any identifying information of any

survivors, rather they are quantitative statistical reports to show the prevalence of violence facing LGBTQIA and HIV-affected communities.

Trauma-Focused Therapy

AVP provides trauma-focused therapy (individual, group, and couples/relationship) to those who have experienced any type of violence including domestic and intimate partner violence, sexual violence, hate violence, and police violence or trauma. Therapy is focused on addressing current symptoms and/or concerns associated with experiencing violence. Symptoms of trauma may include (but are not limited to): avoidance behaviors, mood instability, difficulty in interpersonal relationships, thoughts of suicide or self-harm, flashbacks and/or nightmares, feelings of guilt or shame, and feeling jittery. Sometimes the pain still lingers. Our staff are licensed clinicians who are trained in evidence-based therapies for trauma, especially as it impacts LGBTQ individuals, families, partners, and communities.

We currently offer one trauma-focused therapy group:

Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) for Trauma for Survivors of Violence

On-going group on Tuesdays from 3-5:00 pm, registration is required.

A group for individuals who have experienced violence and have difficulty managing intense emotions and engaging in successful relationships. Based on the four pillars of DBT—mindfulness, distress tolerance, emotion regulation, and interpersonal effectiveness, members learn a variety of skills to help deal with every day and longstanding concerns.

To find out more information, contact avp@centeronhalsted.org or 773.871.2273

Professional Training

In addition, we provide regular training to law enforcement agencies, court personnel, rape crisis workers, domestic violence organizations, government agencies, hospitals, mental health providers, schools and community centers about the specific needs facing LGBTQ and HIV-affected victims and survivors of violence. Our training is available to any group or organization interested in issues of discrimination, safety and advocacy. This service is fee based. For further information, contact the Anti-Violence Project at avp@centeronhalsted.org or 773.661.0740.

Contact Us

If you would like more information about our programs, you can contact us at avp@centeronhalsted.org.

Graduate Level Student Training

Center on Halsted provides clinical training opportunities for Masters and Doctoral-level students who are interested in a diverse and rigorous clinical practicum with a strong focus on LGBTQ clinical competence. [Click here](#) for more information about our Clinical Training Program.

NEXT: HIV/AIDS & STD

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