Mission
Emerge! Center Against Domestic Abuse provides the opportunity to create, sustain and celebrate a life free from abuse.

Programs and Services Overview
Every adult and child in our program receives a comprehensive assessment and a program tailored to their specific situation and needs. Services may include:

- Safety Planning
- 24-Hour Hotline
- Crisis Intervention
- Safe Shelter
- Transitional Housing
- Assistance to Obtain Permanent Housing
- Lay Legal
- Group Support
- Child & Family Groups
- Art & Pet Therapy
- Education/Advocacy
- Angel Children’s Center
- Community Education

All services are bilingual and are available to anyone regardless of gender. The majority of the requests for service Emerge! receives are from women and their children.
A Participant’s Story

Claudia stared at herself in the mirror wishing to see the person she used to be. Growing up she had big dreams. She couldn’t wait to get married and have a big family. Claudia did marry and had four children but, it wasn’t the happy marriage she had envisioned. Her husband was financially, physically, and emotionally abusive. He forced Claudia to work, while he stayed home and drank. She was the sole provider for their family and was only allowed to leave the house to work.

Claudia couldn’t imagine things could get worse. Suddenly, she lost her job. Her husband was enraged. He threatened to kill her if she didn’t find a job right away. Weeks went by as Claudia struggled desperately to find a work. Her husband pressured her to start working with his friends, drug dealers. Weeks of physical abuse and threats against her life left her feeling as though he had no choice. She knew he would kill her if she didn’t do it, so she did. It wasn’t long before Claudia was arrested and charged with a crime. She didn’t have a criminal record so she was only sentenced to probation. This incident forever shaped her life. Claudia was ashamed of who she had become.

She knew she couldn’t go on like this. She wanted better for her family. She knew she needed help. One day while her husband was passed out, she picked up the phone and called the police. Claudia spoke with a victim advocate and created a safety plan. She packed her bags, grabbed her children and ran. They arrived at Emerge! and since that day Claudia has never looked back.

During her stay at shelter, she enrolled in school and started working again. With a lot of hard work and support from Emerge!, Claudia and her children have moved into their own apartment. She graduates in October and plans to continue her education. “Emerge! gave me back the ability to dream again. Now when I look in the mirror I see a person I am proud of. I am finally the role model I always envisioned being for my children and I can’t wait to see what the future holds for us.”

*Names and identifying details have been changed to protect the innocent.*