A CHANGE COLLECTIVE KY CONVERSATION

Domestic violence support

What families need to know before a crisis

From the November 12, 2026 conversation with Darlene Thomas, Executive Director of GreenHouse17.

> "You don't have to be hit to be harmed."
>
> DARLENE THOMAS / GREENHOUSE17

01 FOUR TAKEAWAYS FROM THE CONVERSATION

01 ABUSE IS NOT ALWAYS PHYSICAL

Fear, threats, manipulation, and control can affect safety even without physical injury.

02 "JUST LEAVE" IS NOT A PLAN

Children, custody, finances, housing, and safety complicate decisions. Pressure is not support.

03 SUPPORT CAN BEGIN NOW

You can ask questions and explore safety options before deciding if, when, or how to leave.

04 KEEP CHOICES WITH THE SURVIVOR

Listen, ask what they need, and don't take over their decisions or expect them to share their story.

02 QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

No personal disclosure required.

01 What might fear or control look like when no physical injury is visible?

02 How can someone show support without pressuring a person to leave?

03 What could schools, courts, and services do to make seeking help safer for parents?

03 IF SOMEONE CONFIDES IN YOU

Instead of "Why don't you leave?", try:

"I believe you. I'm worried about your safety. What support would feel helpful?"

CONFIDENTIAL SUPPORT / 24 HOURS A DAY

GreenHouse17

800-544-2022

greenhouse17.org

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