

The Moving Forward Program

Certified Batterers' Intervention Groups and Anger Management since 1989

January 26, 2012

Dear ,

Your ex-partner, , has been accepted into our batterer's intervention program. One of the requirements of the program is that the men give us the names of any women they are currently involved with or have been involved with in the last few years. This is how we have been able to reach out to you. I have enclosed a copy of the release form he signed for us to contact you. It is our experience that when men come into the program, they often minimize or deny ways they have been abusive in their relationships. We have found that current and former partners often provide the most accurate picture of the man's abusive patterns. In order for the MOVE program to be able to work more effectively with your ex-partner, we would like to get your view of what your relationship with him was like.

That's why we're sending you this "Assessment of Violence/Abuse" form. We want to know from your perspective what ways your ex-partner was abusive or controlling. Some women find many things to check off on the list; for others, only a few things apply. We consider your input to be extremely valuable and we strongly encourage you to fill out the form and send it back to us in the enclosed envelope as soon as you can. Your participation in this assessment of your ex-partner is completely voluntary. Some women find it too painful or difficult to recall past incidents of abuse. Others simply want to have nothing to do with their ex-partners anymore. We completely respect any choice that you make about providing information to this program. However, it is important to us to know that you received this information, so if you don't wish have any further contact with us, please indicate that on the back of the enclosed form and send it to us. Once your ex-partner starts attending his group, I may contact you by telephone to learn more from you about the relationship. Again, if you would prefer to not have this kind of contact, please indicate it on the form.

Please be assured that all information you choose to share with us is kept strictly confidential. At no time will any of this information be shared with your ex-partner. Your ex-partner knows only that we have contacted you and does not know whether you have chosen to share any information with us.

In addition, I have enclosed a list of other organizations in the area, which provide a variety of services for women. Please feel free to contact me at the MOVE office if you have any questions or concerns, or if I can be of support to you. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Barbara Russell
Partner Support Counselor

413-587-9050 phone
888-636-9050 toll-free
413-774-3674 fax