

Organization: Next Step Ministries

County: Forsyth**Address:** P.O. Box 793
Kernersville, N.C. 27285**Phone:** 336-413-5858**Website:** <http://www.nextstepdv.org/>**Project:** Educational Materials on Domestic Violence*****Below are excerpts from their final report*****

About the Project: The grant funding from the N.C. Healthy Start Foundation was used to purchase brochures and books for outreach and study on domestic violence. The brochures were put on display racks at the Next Step Ministries Thrift Store, making them available to the public. Additional copies of the brochures were taken to community outreach sites and gatherings including meetings with local Girl Scout and youth groups, and an outreach event at a local high school. The books purchased by the grant were placed in two locations. The majority of the books and materials were cataloged and placed at the domestic violence shelter for the staff and clients use. Additional books were placed in a display case at the thrift store for customers to purchase at cost. All brochures and books were used to increase awareness and education regarding domestic violence.

In addition to the books and brochures, monies from this grant were also used to purchase three DVDs on dating violence and a guide book on anger management for men. These materials were shared in collaborative meetings with professional, resource officers, and teachers in the local school system as plans are being made to reach young people regarding dating violence.

Successes: In addition to the residents, the staff of our shelter (two full-time and two part-time) have also used the books to increase their knowledge of the subject (one of the books is specifically designed for use with children who have experienced trauma). Materials were also used in collaborative meetings and discussions on outreach. These meetings included members of the Women Helping Women organization from (Winston-Salem First) Winston-Salem, N.C. These meetings were held in March and April and a separate meeting with a teacher from Reynolds High School on March 28th to discuss outreach to youth.

Funding from the N.C. Healthy Start Foundation has enabled us to expand our efforts from providing emergency assistance and shelter for domestic violence victims to include efforts toward prevention and education. The brochures and books received through this funding have provided us with education materials to share with the public as well as to be used by our staff during the every day operation of our shelter. I am so thrilled that we have been able to supply our staff with resources to further their knowledge regarding domestic violence and how to take our clients from victim to survivor. The brochures and pamphlets purchased with this funding have helped us pass on the word about domestic violence and dating violence. They have been wonderful tools for us to pass on to both adults and youth



to assist in reaching out to friends and family who are suspected of being abused or abusing. Workbooks purchased through this funding are currently being used by our shelter residents in group sessions to assist them through post-traumatic stress, dealing with their past, and looking with confidence toward the future.

