

Gilroy Innovators is a team of community members dedicated to creating a safer Gilroy. The Innovators will use the "Close 2 Home" approach to design community-led initiatives and solutions to prevent domestic and sexual violence from occurring in our community.

HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

- *Become a youth or adult leader.
- *Help us spread the word by telling a friend, hanging up a flyer or making an announcement.
- *Invite the Gilroy Innovators to come and speak at your team meetings, sports teams, social groups, or faith-based gatherings.
- *We are looking for youth and adults interested in becoming community leaders to help create a safer Gilroy.

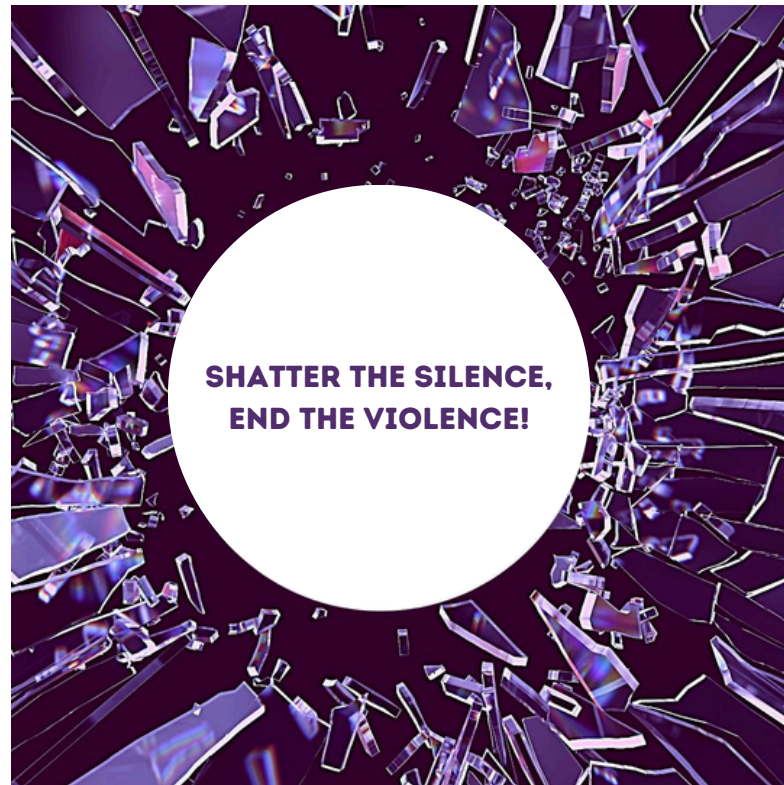
For more information please contact:

Rosalva Romero at (669)239-9017

or Ana Gonzalez at (408)607-4189


<https://www.communitysolutions.org/prevention-services/>

Confidential 24-hour crisis line at 1-877-363-7238



Actions you can take today!

Would you know how to help your friend or family?



- Here are actions you can take today to be there for your loved one and learn how to help prevent violence before it happens. Together we can “Shatter the silence, end the violence”.
- Talk about relationships: Share what healthy and unhealthy relationships can look like with your friends and family. Be careful not to judge, avoid asking “why” questions, and validate their feelings.
- Call attention to toxic behavior: If you see behavior that is not healthy, say so and talk about it. Let your friend or family member know how their behavior can be harmful to someone and the consequences it can bring.

- Create a space to express emotions with your family: Violence can leave an impact on the family as a whole. Create safe spaces to express emotions as a family, listen without judgment, and develop healthy and positive solutions together.
- Lead with Strengths: Lift up your friends and family by reminding them of what makes them amazing, strong, and wonderful. Remind them of their value and build their self-image.

Why is it important?

Many people in our community are unaware of what actions to take when their loved one experiences sexual assault or domestic violence. In the 2020-2021 Community Assessment by the Gilroy Innovators, they found that more than 50% of people would go to a friend or family member first in the event of sexual assault or domestic violence