November Newsletter 2020

Supporting survivors of domestic and sexual violence, stalking, teen dating violence, elder abuse and human trafficking

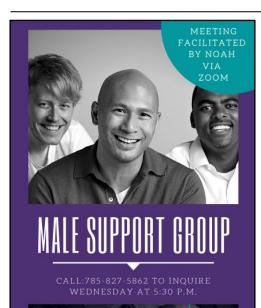
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www.DVACK.org



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At least <u>1 in 6 men</u> have been sexually abused or assaulted, and <u>1 in 4 men</u> have experienced some form of physical violence by an intimate partner. Abuse is abuse, regardless of gender. Male survivors of childhood and adulthood abuse are welcomed at DVACK and are invited to join Noah, a male DVACK advocate, for a virtual support group on Wednesdays at 5:30 P.M. To participate, email noahc@dvack.org.

## Meet DVACK's Weekend Residential Advocate!



**Dominic Barone** 

Dominic joined DVACK in January of this year. Recently graduating with a bachelor's in psychology from Kansas Wesleyan University, Dominic has enjoyed using his degree to support survivors of abuse. Raised in a military family, Dominic's long-term goal is to become a military psychologist. Through volunteering at VA hospitals, Dominic has noticed that even though the experiences of war and abuse are different, the trauma and pain of both impact individuals in similar ways. Dominic appreciates the experiences that he is

gaining from working with survivors of abuse—hearing their stories and watching them grow—and hopes to use this experience to better his future work supporting current and former military personnel. When Dominic isn't answering hotline calls, he enjoys talking with survivors in DVACK's shelter about their day, in addition to helping them create goals and plans for their week and allowing them to vent. As a "bigger guy," Dominic recognizes that his presence can initially be intimidating for some female survivors. Building women's trust back up in men—feeling safe, respected, and vulnerable around him—has been an important aspect of his role as an advocate. For male survivors, he understands that they can struggle more with feeling comfortable reaching out for help or talking about their feelings. He wants them to know that it is okay to work through their trauma on their own or to find help. For anyone struggling, there is always someone willing and wanting to listen. Even if it takes time to find that person, they are out there. DVACK is here for those in need.

DVACK Campus Advocate, Carly Tinkler, joined forces with Kansas Wesleyan University to honor Domestic Violence Awareness Month, hosting a candlelight vigil and <u>Clothesline Project</u> activity to shed light on victims' experiences.







Help DVACK gather toys for children in need! Join us for the 34<sup>th</sup> annual **Salina Toy Run** on November 22. Motorcyclists depart from the Central Mall at 2:00 P.M.