

Small BUSINESS Advocate

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City of Longmont's LEVI Program Offers Free Training on Domestic Violence

Domestic violence doesn't stay home when its victims go to work. It follows them, resulting in violence in the workplace. Or it can spill over into the workplace when a victim is harassed by threatening phone calls, absent because of injuries or less productive from extreme stress.

Domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behavior that is used by one person to gain or maintain power and control over an intimate partner. As the No. 1 public safety issue in Longmont, more people are injured from domestic violence than any other crime. The impact of domestic violence in the workplace includes lost wages, absenteeism, and non-productivity of not only victims and perpetrators, but also co-workers. It is crucial that domestic violence be seen as a serious, recognizable and preventable problem, just like thousands of other workplace health and safety issues that affect

a business and its bottom line.

Did you know?

- Nearly one-third of American women (31 percent) report being abused by a partner at some point in their lives.
- In Longmont, approximately 75% of domestic violence victims are women and 25% are men.
- 74% of victims are harassed at work.
- 25% of all absenteeism and medical benefit expenditures are due to domestic violence.
- Businesses can obtain a protection order against a dangerous person.
- Special unemployment insurance laws exist for victims of domestic violence.

The City of Longmont's Longmont Ending Violence Initiative (LEVI) offers free training to Longmont-area business on how to become part of the solution to domestic violence. If you are interested in this



training, please contact Cheryl at 303.774.4534. Other information is also available, such as in-depth articles, handbooks and other tools to strengthen your response to domestic violence in the workplace.

