

Safer Naper November 2021 – Social Services Partnerships

[Earlier this year](#), we shared information about our Social Services Unit, which assists citizens in cases of domestic violence, mental illness, child/elder abuse, sexual abuse, substance abuse and youth and family issues. They provide crisis intervention in situations requiring immediate assistance, short-term counseling and referrals, assist with mental health assessments, court advocacy for Orders of Protection, assistance with death notifications and grief counseling, provide victim/witness support, and follow up on incidents reported to the police that require further assistance.

Our four full-time social workers do tremendous work with our residents and have built strong partnerships with area organizations to provide additional support to residents who need it. Our team collaborates with outside groups (medical, religious, not-for-profit, etc.) to help deliver even more services to our community. Through these connections, NPD is stronger and better able to support the residents of Naperville.

Learn more about a few of these critical community partnerships:

Reclaim 13

[Reclaim 13](#) a local leader in ending the cycle of sexual exploitation for children and young adults. Through a variety of efforts around education, community engagement and safehouses for those who have experienced abuse, Reclaim 13 works hard to keep our young people safe. They have been a tremendous support to our police department and provided emergency bags we can provide to young people recovered from trafficking.

Likewise, Naperville PD staff was honored to meet with residents of the Cherish House program this past holiday season, provide a bit of holiday cheer and spent some time getting to know the residents. Partnerships with incredible organizations like Reclaim 13 are essential to getting victims the support they need in their healing journey.

If you or a youth you know is a victim of sexual exploitation and is in need of guidance, Reclaim 13 operates a 24 hour crisis hotline to provide information and support.

Crisis Hotline (312) 462-3306

Loaves and Fishes

The Naperville Police Department has relied on the support of [Loaves & Fishes Community Services](#) during high-stress times for residents. Loaves & Fishes believes that the power of the community can change someone's life by providing access to healthy food and programs to sustain self-sufficiency. The Naperville Police Department appreciates our partnership with Loaves & Fishes and will continue to work with this organization to help those in need gain access to the resources they need to help them overcome barriers, improve their lives and become self-sufficient.

Connect for Life

The Naperville Police Department works closely with [Connect for Life, Inc.](#) to help individuals who are struggling with substance use disorders and their families. Connect for Life focuses on finding treatment options and cultivating hope for participants in their journey to recovery.

The Naperville Police Department relies on Connect for Life to help divert these individuals away from the criminal justice system in an effort to reduce unnecessary incarcerations and recidivism and to increase safety for residents.

DuPage Pads

Naperville Police Department partners with [DuPage Pads](#) for more than just interim housing for homeless individuals. Pads also provides supportive services including street outreach, family outreach, medical respite services and employment support. We are proud to support DuPage Pads in their efforts, and are always confident that when Pads gets involved, we will develop an effective outcome for the individual or family in need.

360 Youth Services

The work of [360 Youth Services](#) is found simply summarized on their website: “We help you navigate life’s challenges.” What started out in 1971 as a grassroots effort to increase youth-centered services in Naperville, 360 Youth Services now offers substance prevention education, counseling, and housing support to youth and families in Naperville and the surrounding areas.

Teenagers and young adults experience a variety of concerns including homelessness, physical/sexual abuse, and mental health concerns. Naperville Police Department’s Social Services Unit frequently refers at-risk adolescents and their families to 360 Youth Services for cost-effective, local counseling. Additionally, housing support and on-going case management help keep adolescents off the streets and focused on starting their future.

NPD’s Social Services Unit has witnessed first-hand the positive impact these various services have had on Naperville families. We are fortunate to have them in our community and are proud to partner with them for the benefit of our residents.