Help and Emergency Response, Inc.

Agency Selection

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**Mission and Purpose**

The Help and Emergency Response, Inc. (H.E.R. Shelter) mission is to provide shelter to women under violent attacks and educate communities, especially women who were threatened. This agency strives to give women back their power to fight for their self-worth. It is a safe haven for not only women but also their children. Children who leave from an abusive home are often confused, scared and anxious. This agency is a welcoming space for them in hopes of establishing a better life for themselves. The agency provides many programs for in and out-of- shelter clients with the intention of developing an independent living situation.

The largest population the agency services is Portsmouth and Chesapeake. The agency outreaches to the underserved population that is difficult to reach because of transportation issues, lack of access to phone or internet and language barriers. The clients are women and women with children who have been through abusive behaviors-including physical, sexual and psychological attacks. Due to confidentiality, the locations of the agency shelters are not made public. There are two shelters, the larger of the two is the Portsmouth Shelter that opened in 1995 and the Chesapeake Shelter that opened in 2015. The agency provides a 24hr Crisis Response hotline, shelter office numbers, and a contact PO Box.

This agency was chosen with the hope of spreading the word that women do not need to stay at the home where there is abuse. There is help out for them, they do not need to feel like they are alone and have nowhere to go. My passion was also to help those in need and to make a difference not just for adults but most importantly children. They are also the innocent victims in a situation that should never happen. My goal in the future is to try to put my skills to some use and help those children in need to regain a happier and stronger childhood.

References

Home. (n.d.). Retrieved from http://hershelter.com/