### Next Steps:

1. Ask yourself if you want to be involved with this is the type of Volunteer opportunity.

2. Make contact with the VCNP Program Supervisor, Bethany Sanford and fill out a volunteer application.

3. Attend the volunteer training.

4. Be committed to your assigned victim by navigating them through the civil/criminal court process until it is resolved, as well as through the complexity of the networks that will help them in making a new life on their own.



## Interested? Want more Information?

VCNP Phone: 336.226.5982

Email:

bsanford@familyabuseservices.org

Location:

1950 Martin Street

Burlington, NC 27215

#### Funded By:



### Alamance County

Volunteer Court Navigator Program

A Collaborative Partnership between the Family Justice Center & Family Abuse Services of Alamance County



Our Mission: To help victims of domestic violence navigate their way through a complicated system to find safety and stability for themselves and their families.

#### WHAT IS THE VOLUNTEER COURT NAVIGATOR PROGRAM?

The Volunteer Court Navigator Program (VCNP) provides a support system to domestic violence victims through the utilization of trained volunteers.

### WHAT'S THE PURPOSE OF VCNP?

In Alamance County, 76% of all temporary protective orders do not become full protective orders and criminal charges are often dismissed. Research suggests that victims are more likely to follow through if they feel support during the civil and criminal court proceedings.

The VCNP provides victims with trained Volunteers, who assist them in navigating through civil and criminal court processes. Volunteers also provide personal support to victims before, during and after the court proceedings.

## WHAT'S THE PROCESS?

- Each victim is greeted at the Family Justice Center by the Intake Specialist, who does an assessment of the situation.
- The Intake Specialist connects the victim to a Court Advocate who assists them in safety planning and filling out a Protective Order.
- The Court Advocate determines if a victim is in need of assistance from a Volunteer Court Navigator and informs the VCNP Program Supervisor.
- Program Supervisor connects the victim and the Volunteer Court Navigator (VCN).
- The VCN maintains a relationship with the victim until her/his legal process is resolved.

# HOW CAN A Volunteer Help?

Trained Volunteers provide emotional, in-person support to victims of domestic violence by being present with them throughout the court process.

A Volunteer's presence in the court room brings comfort and strength to victims as they face their abusers. Volunteers are trained to support victims through the entire process.