

## VCU Division of Trauma's Injury and Violence Prevention Program Intimate Partner Violence Crisis Fund

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### IPV CRISIS FUND GUIDELINES

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The Intimate Partner Violence Crisis Fund provides limited funds to persons experiencing a domestic or sexual violence related crisis and who are in need of financial assistance. The funds are intended to assist survivors and their children in increasing their safety and in making longer-term progress towards safety and independence. Domestic violence for the purpose of this fund is defined as a pattern of behaviors used by one individual to maintain power and control over a partner in the context of an intimate relationship. Sexual Violence is conduct of a sexual nature which is non-consensual, and is accomplished through threat, coercion, exploitation, deceit, force, physical or mental incapacitation, and/or power of authority. Rape is a common form of sexual assault

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### INSTRUCTIONS

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Funds will only be available to patients who have agreed to speak with an advocate and receive treatment from a Forensic Nurse Examiner (FNE) if available. Funds will be available to support applicants ages 18 and above. The crisis fund offers gift cards to pay for gas, food, clothing, or other needed items; cab fare, one night in a hotel if shelters are full; and bus tickets. Funds are available to patients seen in the Emergency Department, on the hospital units, and in out patient clinics. Gift cards are stored in the ED social work office or in the STICU CCH9.

If you identify a patient who may be eligible, please contact  
Caitlin Shiflett (IPV/SA advocate) First. Pager: 2375

Or RHART (Regional Hospital Accompaniment Response Team) if the IPV/SA  
advocate is unavailable at **804-612-6126**

A volunteer advocate will come to the hospital, provide support to the patient and connect patient with community resources.

The applicant and the referring professional must sign the application. The patient should respond to the questions on the application under "narrative" with as much detail as possible. The amount of funds distributed by the referring professional is based on the professional's best judgment and contributing factors related to the patients circumstances. Funds are available up to \$250.00, though this amount may not be necessary. If you feel the case warrants funds exceeding \$250.00 contact the Project Empower team. Amount of distributed funds will be documented in the patient's EMR.

Please return the completed applications to Beulah Crook in West Hospital, 12<sup>th</sup> floor.

For additional questions or more information, contact:  
Caitlin L. Shiflett, MSW, Victim Advocate  
Project Empower Coordinator  
Injury and Violence Prevention Program, VCU Medical Center  
[Caitlin.Shiflett@vcuhealth.org](mailto:Caitlin.Shiflett@vcuhealth.org)

or call the Forensic Nurse Examiners (FNE) office at 804-628-0623