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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rochester Police Department’s message to victims of domestic violence and abuse: “We are here for you. We are here to help.”

April 2, 2020 – Rochester, Minnesota – Echoing the message of many who feel concern for those who are at home and finding themselves victims of domestic violence, the Rochester Police Department has released an [informational video](#) in hopes its message will reach victims and encourage them to seek help.

“If you are currently in an abusive relationship, we are here to answer 24/7 when you call 911,” said Rochester Police Sergeant of the Special Victims Unit Jennifer Hodgman. Options other than calling 911 are available as well. “If you wish to speak with a trained advocate about safety options, services available, and additional resources, the Women’s Shelter can also be reached 24 hours a day to assist you.”

The video, which includes Spanish language subtitles, is featured on the Rochester Police Department’s Facebook page in the hopes this message will reach those who need this information the most, including children who are now at home due to school closures.

“Social distancing does not mean you must stay at home and endure abuse,” said Sgt. Hodgman. “We are here to help you.”

Victims may call 911 for assistance from the Police Department or may reach the Women’s Shelter at 507-285-1010.

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[Click here](#) to access a digital version of this release.

Direct YouTube Link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=THCnJHPEYXQ&feature=youtu.be>

**NOVEL CORONAVIRUS
(COVID-19) PANDEMIC**



EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS

**Stay at Home
Executive Order 20-20**
Effective March 27 – April 10

**City of Rochester
Declaration of Local Emergency**
Issued March 17, 2020

**Olmsted County
Public Health Emergency**
Issued March 17, 2020

**Minnesota Peacetime State of
Emergency EM-3453**
Issued March 13, 2020

**National Emergency
Concerning Novel Coronavirus
Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak**
Issued March 13, 2020

LOCAL ACTIVATIONS

**City of Rochester
Emergency Operations Plan**

Joint Information Center (JIC)

**City of Rochester Emergency
Operations Center (EOC)**

EOC STRATEGY

Ensure Community Lifelines

EOC OBJECTIVES

Continuity of Operations

Timely Community and
Teammate Communication

Economic Stability

Community Stability

Healthcare System Support

*Lifelines enable the continuous
operation of critical government
and business functions and are
essential to human health and
safety or economic security.*

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