



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – APRIL 1, 2020

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**Peace4Crawford's Hope Line  
Connecting Each Other with Support and Services  
814-724-1116  
833-491-4673 (toll free)**

Crawford County's trauma informed initiative, Peace4Crawford, is launching a county-wide telephone "warm line" to assist local residents and families throughout the duration of the current COVID-19/Coronavirus crisis. The phone number to call is 814-724-1116 or 833-491-4673 (toll free).

People in need of assistance may call the Hope Line from 9:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. seven days a week. Calls will be triaged by Women's Services Hotline staff and referred to one of a group of over 40 trained local volunteers willing to help individuals work through non-emergency challenges as a result of the spread and impact of COVID-19.

The Hope Line is not for emergencies. However, the Hope Line may help alleviate some of the additional burden expected on local emergency lines and first responders, keeping those open for true emergencies. The Hope Line also adds another point of contact to help people identify and access local services and accurate information to keep themselves and their families safe during this difficult time.

Bruce Harlan, Executive Director of Women's Services Inc., commented that "Women's Services is providing access to the dedicated phone lines as part of a collaborative effort initiated by Peace4Crawford with its mission of preventing and alleviating toxic stress for individuals and communities. This is a very difficult and stressful time for everyone, and our goal is to lend a compassionate presence to those who may need help right now. We have been humbled by the number of people who have stepped forward to help."