Advocacy
Respect Confidentiality...
All discussions must occur in private, wihtout other family members present. This is essential to building trust and ensuring her safety.
Believe and Validate Her Experiences...
Listen to her and believe her. Acknowledge her feelings and let her know she is not alone. Many women have similar experiences.
Acknowledge Injustice...
The violence perpetrated against her is not her fault. No one deserves to be abused.
Respect Her Autonomy...
Respect her right to make decisions in her own life, when she is ready. She is the expert in her life.
Help Her Plan for Her Future Safety...
What has she tried in the past to keep herself safe? Is it working? Does she have a place to go if she needs to escape?
Promote Access to Community Services...
Know the resources in your community. Is there a hotline and shelter for battered women?