Have you had a Traumatic Brain Injury?

Traumatic Brain Injury and Domestic Violence
Domestic violence (DV) can lead to a traumatic brain injury (TBI), because the head and neck are common targets in physical assaults within the domestic setting.

What is a traumatic brain injury (TBI)?
External trauma to the head or violent movement of the head that leads to brain damage, which can be caused by several things, such as, an assault, being shaken, or a fall.

What is domestic violence (DV)?
The intimidation, physical and/or sexual assault, and/or other abusive behavior against another individual.

Have YOU been:
- Shaken severely?
- Hit in the face, neck, or head?
- Made to fall, then hitting your head?
- Choked or strangled?

IF YOU SAID YES, THEN YOU MAY HAVE HAD A TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY.
PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS OF A TBI INCLUDE:
• Headaches
• Vision Changes
• Dizziness and/or Balance Problems
• Fatigued and/or Easily Confused
• Head and/or Neck Pain

YOU MAY ALSO EXPERIENCE:
• Gaps in Memory
• An Inability to Focus and/or Pay Attention
• Lack of Motivation in Daily Life
• An Inability to Control Your Emotions
• Increased Sensitivity to Light and/or Noise

DANGER SIGNS OF A TBI FROM DV:
• Headaches that do not go away or get worse
• Extreme drowsiness or having a hard time waking-up
• Slurred speech, numbness, or decreased coordination
• Repeated vomiting or nausea
• Unusual behavior, restlessness, or agitation
• One pupil (eye) is larger than the other

THINK YOU HAD A TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY?
☑ If you have been hurt in the head or choked, especially if you have ANY symptoms, seek medical attention.
☑ Connect with your local medical and support services.

National Domestic Violence Hotline
1-800-799-SAFE

WA State Coalition Against Domestic Violence
www.wscadv.org