Help for Today….Hope for Tomorrow

I was a stranger here. I didn’t know anyone except for the person who was abusing me. All of my family lives hundreds of miles away on the coast. I was so isolated. Things didn’t start out so bad at first. Sure we had arguments, but then one night (\*) got so upset that (\*) pushed me hard against the wall. I hit my head so hard that I could barely see straight. I left that night and planned to stay at a hotel, but during the night I had such a terrible headache that I went to the emergency room. The doctors told me it was fortunate that I came in because it might have gotten much worse if I hadn’t. They asked what happened and I told them about the altercation. They told me it was a crime, which part of me knew that, but I didn’t think there was anything I could do about it. The police were called and they arrested (\*), but (\*) was out on bail within the weekend. I was concerned that (\*) would come after me, so I went to shelter.

At shelter, the community services director helped me to file a protective order against (\*), helped me to find a job, and provided me with a phone so I could keep in contact with my family. I knew there wasn’t anything here for me and I wanted nothing more than to go home and be with my family. Turning Point helped me to buy tickets for the trip home and even helped to find luggage for the small amount of belongings that I was able to take with me. I found a job and am working towards getting my own place, but I know that I don’t have to endure the violence anymore.

\**my abuser*