

# Domestic Violence Awareness Program

## OBJECTIVE:

Increase member awareness about and involvement in programs to decrease domestic violence in communities and across the nation

## ACTION PLAN

### BECOME AWARE AND LEARN THE FACTS

Investigate resources available in your community regarding domestic violence:

- o Is there a shelter for battered women? A hotline?
- o Is there awareness among community leaders and law enforcement? The community in general?
- o Are there educational efforts in local schools, places of worship, community service organizations, and local area businesses?
- o What are the statistics regarding domestic violence in your community? Check with your state Domestic Violence Coalition, Social Services, law enforcement, local government, hospitals, and health departments.

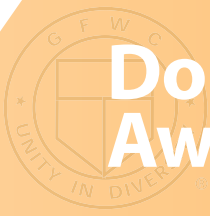
### INITIATE AND SUPPORT COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

- o Wear the GFWC Domestic Violence Awareness pin. (See Resources)
- o Receive Legislative Action Alerts from the National Network to End Domestic Violence and become an advocate. (See Resources)
- o Lobby for stricter statutes to hold abusers accountable.
- o Donate books to your local shelter or libraries. Volunteer to tutor victims and their children, if needed.
- o Educate your club and community members by presenting programs, workshops, and speakers and distribute materials provided by GFWC partner organizations. (See Resources)
- o Explore events such as the Candlelight Vigil or Tree of Remembrance. Visit [www.GFWC.org](http://www.GFWC.org) for more information.
- o Provide press kits and encourage newspaper articles/write letters to the editor about domestic abuse and teen dating violence.
- o Initiate a "Cut It Out" program with local hairdressers to educate their clients about domestic violence and where to get help in the community. (See Resources)
- o Support local shelters
  - Volunteer time at your local shelter.
  - Start a literacy program and tutor residents; read to children or help with homework; donate school supplies, educational games, and videos.
  - Raise funds for the shelter to be used as needed.
  - Donate food, toiletries, clothing, and other needed items.
  - Offer to paint rooms, plant flowers, or provide other needed services.
  - Hold a holiday party, summer picnic, etc for shelter residents.
  - Adopt a family for the holidays.



**"[ABUSE] IS A SOCIAL PROBLEM FOR WHICH THERE IS HOPE.** Each of us, in our own place, in our own way, can do something about it." Public Affairs Junior Chairman Carole S. Greenwich, 1978.





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- Donate prepaid phone cards to shelters.
  - Donate used cell phones, enlist a local store as a drop-off point, collect phones, and then mail using prepaid shipping label found at [www.NCADV.org](http://www.NCADV.org). (See Resources)
  - Provide child care services while victims go to court or job interviews.
  - Contact local veterinarians, kennels, or animal shelters and arrange for housing for pets while victims are in shelters.
  - Donate professional attire to battered women seeking employment; visit [www.DressForSuccess.org](http://www.DressForSuccess.org).
  - Assist with or institute job training, career skills, or internet safety programs. Visit [www.NNEDV.org](http://www.NNEDV.org) for information.
  - Assemble First Night Kits, Birthday Bags, Anger Kits, or Bedtime Snack Sacks and donate to your local shelter. Visit [www.GFWC.org](http://www.GFWC.org).
- Encourage local businesses to display purple lights in storefront windows and provide purple ribbons along with local and national domestic violence hotline numbers during October. (See Resources.)
  - Wear purple, the color designated for domestic violence awareness, during October, National Domestic Violence Awareness month.

## PREVENTION

- Promote The Teen Action Campaign, *See It and Stop It*, a public education campaign by and for teens. Visit [www.SeeItStopIt.org](http://www.SeeItStopIt.org) for an online toolkit, posters, radio and television public service announcements, and publicity materials.
- Distribute *Connect*, a resource that will help parents engage teens and adolescents in discussions about violence against women. Visit [www.EndAbuse.org](http://www.EndAbuse.org) for information.
- Visit [www.EndAbuse.org](http://www.EndAbuse.org) for information on Coaching Boys Into Men, which contains helpful tips and advice to stop patterns of violence.
- Educate club on childhood bullying. Work with schools, PTA, and other groups to eliminate bullying. Visit <http://StopBullyingNow.hrsa.gov> for materials and other information.

## RESOURCES

### FAMILY VIOLENCE PREVENTION FUND

383 Rhode Island ST, STE 304 | San Francisco, CA 94103

P: 415/252-8900 | W: [www.EndAbuse.org](http://www.EndAbuse.org) | E: [gfwcinfo@endabuse.org](mailto:gfwcinfo@endabuse.org)

The Family Violence Prevention Fund is a national leader in educating the public, developing model programs, and passing legislation throughout the U.S. to stop violence against women and children.

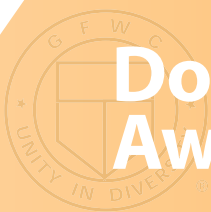
### NATIONAL COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

PO BOX 18749 | Denver, CO 80218

P: 303/839-1852 ext. 108 | F: 303/831-9251 | W: [www.NCADV.org](http://www.NCADV.org)

NCADV is a coalition of local, state, regional, and national groups that support community based, non-violent alternatives for battered women and their children.





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## NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HOTLINE

3413 Bee Cave RD | Austin, TX 78746

P: 512/685-6366 | W: [www.NDVH.org](http://www.NDVH.org)

Contact: Cheryl Cates | HOTLINE: 800/799-SAFETY | TTY: 800/787-3224

The hotline is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, for victims and anyone calling on their behalf, to provide crisis intervention, safety planning, information, and referrals to agencies in all 50 states. Assistance is available in English and Spanish, with interpreter services.

## NATIONAL NETWORK TO END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

660 Pennsylvania AVE SE, STE 303 | Washington, DC 20003

P: 202/543-5566 | F: 202/543-5626 | W: [www.NNEDV.org](http://www.NNEDV.org)

Contact: Cheryl O'Donnell | [codonnell@nnedv.org](mailto:codonnell@nnedv.org)

The National Network to End Domestic Violence, representing state domestic violence coalitions, is dedicated to creating a social, political, and economic environment in which violence against women no longer exists.

## NATIONAL RESOURCE CENTER ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

6400 Flank DR, STE 1300 | Harrisburg, PA 17112

P: 800/537-2238 | F: 717/545-9456 | W: [www.NRCDV.org](http://www.NRCDV.org)

The National Resource Center on Domestic Violence provides support to all organizations and individuals working to end violence in the lives of victims and their children.

## CUT IT OUT

Salons Against Domestic Violence

401 N. Michigan AVE, STE 2200 | Chicago, IL 60611

P: 312/527-6765 | W: [www.CutItOut.org](http://www.CutItOut.org)

Cut It Out, a program of the Salons Against Domestic Abuse, mobilizes salon professionals to fight domestic abuse in communities across the U.S., training salon professionals to recognize warning signs and refer clients to local resources.

## AWARDS

### CLUB

A \$50 award is given annually to one club in the nation to recognize creativity in implementing an effective Domestic Violence Awareness Program. The award is based on narrative reports. State GFWC Domestic Violence Awareness Chairmen should forward the winning state entry to the national GFWC Domestic Violence Awareness Chairman by March 15 of each year.

### STATE

GFWC certificates are awarded to one state federation in each membership category to recognize outstanding achievement in the GFWC Domestic Violence Awareness Program. Award presentations are made annually in honor of junior and general membership participation.

