October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Domestic Violence Awareness Month evolved from an initial “Day of Unity” held in October 1981 when a dedicated group of advocates from around the country joined together to officially recognize the work to end domestic violence. While each community recognizes Domestic Violence Awareness Month in their unique way, events that remember and mourn those who lost their lives to domestic violence, that celebrate and honor survivors, that recognize those who work tirelessly every day to end domestic violence, and that engage communities to become more aware and educated about domestic violence and its impacts are an important part of October’s activities.

Florida’s 42 certified domestic violence centers and their community partners are engaged in programs and projects year around to change and save lives. Domestic Violence Awareness Month provides an opportunity to highlight some special events planned by certified domestic violence centers throughout the state.

**ABUSE COUNSELING AND TREATMENT, INC.**

**Dance-A-Thon for domestic violence survivors**

All ages are invited to join the fun, wear purple and support ACT and the survivors they serve. Put your dancing shoes on or support a dancer!

October 11th 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
The Ranch Concert Hall and Saloon
Fort Myers
For more information:
www.actabuse.com/event/dance-a-thon/

**AID TO VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE, INC.**

**Out of the Shadows: Serving High-Risk Communities**

October 3rd 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
In partnership with the Domestic Violence Council Clayton Hutcheson Agricultural Center
West Palm Beach

**ANOTHER WAY, INC.**

Another Way will have several booths set up at various events in the counties served, as well as at the Columbia County Fair and Homecoming Parade.

Columbia County’s High School football team will be wearing purple ribbons on their helmets in October.

Another Way is working with community partners in each county to light their buildings purple and/or display large purple ribbons during the month of October.

**CENTER FOR ABUSE AND RAPE EMERGENCIES, INC (C.A.R.E.)**

**Englewood Breakfast**

October 9th 8:00 a.m.
Fellowship Church
Green Dot Program facilitated by: Elyse Clark & Chris Hall

**C.A.R.E. Auxiliary Luncheon**

October 17th
River City Grill
In Her Shoes
October 18th
Facilitator: Robin Smith-Velazquez

Purple Pinwheels Sunday
October 22nd
Churches in Charlotte County display purple pinwheels

Men’s Luncheon
October 25th 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Isles Yacht Club
Presenter: Boisy Waiters, College of Central Florida

Donor/Supporter Annual Luncheon
October 30th 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
CH Event Center

Stalking/Cyberstalking Workshop
October 30th 1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Charlotte Harbor Event Center

CITRUS COUNTY ABUSE SHELTER ASSOCIATION, INC. (CASA)

Swing for Survivors Golf Tournament
October 21st
Inverness Golf and Country Club

Unity Walk
October 24th
Downtown Inverness

COMMUNITY ACTION STOPS ABUSE (CASA)

21st Annual Peace Breakfast
This is CASA’s premier signature event, where community leaders, business professionals and other caring supporters join together for an inspirational program in support of CASA. The event features a domestic violence survivor telling their story, a presentation of the annual “Victory over Violence” award and special speakers such as celebrity emcee Lissette Campos.

October 12th
St Petersburg Coliseum
Networking: 7:00 a.m. – 7:30 a.m.
Program: 7:30 a.m. – 8:30 a.m.
For more information:
www.casa-stpete.org/PeaceBreakfast

DAWN CENTER

Clothesline Project
Dawn Center displays the Clothesline project at the community’s National Night Out Event to create awareness for survivors and their families. Approximately 5000 people attend this event.
October 7th

Dash for Dawn Center 5k Run to Take Back the Night
The community comes together for an evening of awareness and support for survivors of domestic violence. This annual event lights up the night with glow sticks and smiles to run or walk the rolling hills of Brooksville.
October 14th

Candlelight Vigil (DV/SV Task Force of Hernando County)
A candlelight vigil and open mic night for survivors and their families. This event will be held in downtown Brooksville. The night will include a silent candlelight walk from the courthouse steps to the local Rising Sun Bistro where an open mic night will be held for survivors and their families, community supporters, and advocates to share their stories, poems, and songs.
October 20th

Early Learning Coalition Breakout Sessions
Prevention Advocates discuss healthy play using gender equality, to promote anti-violence prevention with early educators at the Pasco Hernando Early Learning Coalition Annual Conference.
October 21st

Tabling at the Resident Reception
With the Chamber of Commerce to promote DVAM.
October 27th

Bene’s Career Academy Trunk or Treat Festival for Dawn Center
Tabling to create awareness to families regarding Domestic Violence Awareness month and prevention activities.
October 27th
FAMILY LIFE CENTER

Annual Walk A Mile in Her Shoes
Gather your team and practice your high heel strut, and maybe you will win one of this year’s trophies!

October 7th
Check-In: 8:00 a.m.
Walk Kick Off: 9:00 a.m.
Veterans Park in Flagler Beach
For more information: www.familylifecenterflagler.org/walk.html

HARBOR HOUSE OF CENTRAL FLORIDA

2017 Signature Purple Door Luncheon Honoring Champions of Courage
Harbor House’s Purple Door event is their annual signature event, and serves as a staple in the Orange County community to support survivors and their children with necessary resources. The 2017 luncheon will include a special awards presentation for champions working to end violence in their community and at the national level in the following categories:

• Champion of Courage
• Champion of Advocacy
• Champion of Justice
• Champion of Equality

October 18th
Registration: 11:00 a.m. - noon
Luncheon: noon - 1:00 p.m.
Rosen Center
For more information: harborhousefl.com/purpledoor

HELP NOW OF OSCEOLA COUNTY

Lunch and Learn: Domestic and Intimate Partner Violence Within the Veteran Population
Learn about the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) approach to working with Veterans experiencing domestic-intimate partner violence or utilizing violence

October 4th noon - 2:00 p.m.
Kissimmee Police Department
Contact Help Now Outreach Office at 407-847-3286 to reserve a seat. Join us and bring your own lunch.

10th Annual March against Domestic Violence and Candlelight Vigil
The Rally will begin at the Osceola County Courthouse in Downtown Kissimmee with messages from survivors and community advocates to end violence against women and children. The march takes place through the streets of Kissimmee and will end with a candlelight vigil at the Kissimmee Police Department as we honor those who have lost their lives due to domestic violence, and shine a light of hope for current survivors in our community. Join us! Wear purple and pledge your support to Stop the Violence!
For more information: info@helpnowshelter.org

October 5th  6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
Osceola County Courthouse

Annual Domestic Violence Conference: The Impact of Technology In Abusive Relationships
October 31st  8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Osceola Heritage Park Extension Services
Registration starts at 8:00 a.m. For registration or information: www.helpnowshelter.org or 407-847-3286

SAFESPACE

Rockin’ The Walk! SafeSpace’s 8th Annual Walk A Mile in Her Shoes
SafeSpace is calling on all good men to step up against domestic violence - literally! Walk a mile in her shoes by donning 4-inch red stilettos. For more information call: 772-223-2399 or visit www.safespacefl.org

Martin County
October 7th
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Riverwalk Stage Area
Downtown Stuart

St. Lucie County
October 14th
9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Tradition Square
Port Saint Lucie

Indian River County
October 28th
10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Indian River Mall
Vero Beach
SAFE PLACE AND RAPE CRISIS CENTER, INC. (SPARCC)

National Night Out
October 3rd
5:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
(Booth at Police Department’s Outreach Event)
Payne’s Skate Park, Sarasota

SPARCC Amazing Raise & Raise the Roof Party
October 14th
5:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.
Michael’s On East

Empower Your Purse Luncheon
October 20th
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
(Joint Event with Hope Family Services, Women’s Resource Center & SPARCC)
Polo Grill’s Fete Ballroom, Lakewood Ranch

SALVATION ARMY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAM - BREVARD COUNTY

Run Domestic Violence Out of Brevard 5K Run/Walk
Run along the beautiful Don Griffin Recreation Trail and raise awareness about domestic violence.

October 7th
McKnight Family Sports Complex
3:45 p.m.: Registration and packet pick up
5:00 p.m.: Race begins

SALVATION ARMY DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAM - PANAMA CITY

Domestic Violence Awareness Month Cookout
Enjoy free hamburgers and hotdogs while learning more about Domestic Violence Awareness Month and The Salvation Army Domestic Violence Program services. Stop by, decorate a t-shirt for The Clothesline Project, and pick up a purple ribbon to show your support.

October 6th
11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Domestic Violence Awareness Event
Featuring: Domestic Violence 101 Seminar
Self-Defense Workshop
The Clothesline Project
Candelight Vigil

October 28th
1:00 - 4:00 p.m.
FSU Panama City Campus Auditorium

Silent No More Facebook Campaign
October 1st - October 31st
31 days of domestic violence awareness facts and tips on the Facebook page for The Salvation Army Domestic Violence Program. Because silence hides violence.
www.facebook.com/SalvationArmyDVPanamaCity/

SERENE HARBOR, INC.

12th Annual Purses With A Purpose Luncheon
Get your tickets early, Serene Harbor’s popular “Purses With A Purpose luncheon has sold out for the past six years. This year’s luncheon features a live auction of new designer purses, silent auction, raffles, and display vendors. Guest speaker and survivor Melissa Dohme Hill will share her comments. Melissa was brutally attacked by her ex-boyfriend who stabbed her 32 times in an attempt to take her life. Following that horrific night and her miraculous recovery, Melissa developed the conviction to become an advocate and speak out against domestic violence. In March of last year, she married one of the EMT’s who helped save her life! All money raised during this fundraising event goes directly to the survivors we support and the programs and services we offer.

October 13th
11:00-2:00 p.m.
Hilton Melbourne Rialto Place
For more information: www.sereneharbor.org/purses-with-a-purpose-2017/
SUNRISE DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE CENTER

Holes for Hope (Golf Tournament)
October 2nd 7:30 a.m.
Lake Jovita Golf and Country Club, Dade City

Community Resource Fair
October 10th 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
New Port Richey Library

Day of the Girl
October 10th 12:00 p.m.- 2:00 p.m.
New Port Richey Library

Pancake Breakfast
October 14th 8:00 a.m.- 10:00 a.m.
Applebees Wesley Chapel

Derby Bout
October 14th 3:00 p.m.
New Port Richey Bike Festival

Paws for Peace
October 21st 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Wiregrass Mall

Candle Light Vigil
October 26th 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Adnes Lamb Park, Dade City

WOMEN IN DISTRESS OF BROWARD COUNTY

Walk In My Shoes- Navigating the Complex Realities of Intimate Partner Violence
Private Violence Documentary Screening and Training Panel
October 12th 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Law enforcement, legal professional and service providers only

25th Annual Training and Awards Luncheon
Hosted by the Broward Domestic Violence Council in collaboration with Broward Victim's Rights Coalition and Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence
October 27th 8:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Signature Grand, Davie
6900 West State Road 7 - Davie
For information: www.browardvictimsrights.org

College Tour
Florida Career College
October 6th  9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
and 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Domestic Violence Awareness Presentation

Florida Atlantic University
October 12th  11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Criminal Justice Fair

Broward College
October 18th  11:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
Domestic Violence Awareness Presentation

Nova Southeastern University
October 25th 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
Health and Wellness Fair

2nd Annual Domestic Violence and Behavioral Health Awareness Forum
October 21st 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
hosted by the South Broward Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Hallandale Beach Community Center
Domestic violence does not go away by looking away. It stops when we stand up together. It stops when we say it must, and not just one of us, but all of us.

Sponsored by the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the State of Florida, Department of Children and Families.

Together We Can End Domestic Violence
The Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence is a grassroots nonprofit organization whose membership is comprised of individuals, centers, and advocacy groups sharing the goal of eliminating domestic violence.