



DELAWARE COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Breaking the cycle of violence.

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Governor Markell to declare October Domestic Violence Awareness Month

WILMINGTON, Del.- October will be declared Domestic Violence Awareness Month by Governor Jack Markell at a special event in his New Castle County office on October 11.

The theme of this year's Proclamation event is "Partnership Creates Change." This theme reflects the Governor's partnership with the domestic violence prevention and service community to prevent and end intimate partner violence, as well as the transition Delaware will be experiencing in political leadership and the need for ongoing collaboration. Two community leaders will be acknowledged with awards..

With 1 in 4 women abused in her lifetime, domestic violence is an issue that impacts our homes, communities, and the entire state. Last year in Delaware, 22,663 domestic violence incidents were reported to law enforcement, and Family Court processed 2,836 orders for Protection From Abuse. The statewide hotlines received 3,800 calls and 299 women and 349 children were sheltered in domestic violence shelters in all three counties, a 12% increase over the previous year. This underreported crime is an equal opportunity crime; it impacts Delawareans from all walks of life, income levels, faiths, and communities.

Governor Markell will declare October 2016 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month for the purpose of bringing focus to a crime that affects the health, safety and welfare of thousands of Delawareans. Other speakers will include Senator Patricia Blevins and Sue Ryan, Executive Director of the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

Media and the public are invited to join domestic violence advocates, law enforcement officers, prosecutors and others at this Proclamation signing, which will be held on Tuesday, October 11, 2016 at 10:00a.m. in the Governor's Conference Room on the 12th Floor of the Carvel State Office Building.

For more information about this event, or other Domestic Violence Awareness Month events, please contact the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council or the Delaware Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

If you are in an abusive relationship, or know someone who is, contact your local 24-hour domestic violence hotline to learn about all of your options, including shelter, legal assistance, support groups, and more. Hotline staff can help you create a safety plan personalized for your situation.

24 Hour Domestic Violence Hotlines & Shelters in Delaware:

New Castle County (bilingual services available): 302-762-6110

Kent & Sussex Counties: 302-422-8058; 302-745-9874 (bilingual hotline)

National Domestic Violence Hotline: 1-800-799-SAFE

National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline: 1-866-331-9474

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