

OCTOBER 2024 EDITION

THE ADVOCATE

Pee Dee Coalition Against Domestic
& Sexual Assault Newsletter



#ITSTOPSWITHYOU 

Nationally, October is recognized as Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM). Pee Dee Coalition Against Domestic & Sexual Assault is proud to announce this year's DVAM theme: "It Stops with You." This powerful message calls upon individuals, communities, and institutions to take responsibility, stand against domestic violence, and actively work toward its elimination. Domestic violence is a prevalent issue that affects millions of individuals each year, no matter what someone's gender, sexual orientation, age, race, or socioeconomic status.

The theme "It Stops with You" is a call to action, urging everyone to acknowledge that each of us has a role to play in recognizing and addressing domestic violence. By encouraging individuals to speak out against abusive behavior, support survivors, and educate themselves and others, we can create a safer, more compassionate community.

We invite everyone in the community to join us in our efforts this October and beyond. Together, we can make a difference. "It Stops with You" is not just a theme; it is a promise and a commitment to work towards a future free from domestic violence.

*Editor: Jordan Rainey,
Director of Communications*

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With You"

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PEE DEE COALITION

24/7 CRISIS LINES

1-800-273-1820

843-669-4600

PEE DEE PARENT HELPLINE

CALL: 843-618-2420

TEXT: 843-305-6755

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THE ROAD TO ELIMINATING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE REQUIRES STOPS ALONG THE WAY...

STOP EXCUSES: Commit to Accountability

Being able to recognize negative and/or harmful behaviors within yourself is an important step in everyone's role to stop domestic violence before it even occurs.

There can be many stressors in life that may lead to anger or negative thoughts while processing emotions but acting on those violent impulses and causing harm to others through your hurt is never okay. Pee Dee Coalition's Alternatives to Violence (ATV) program can help you learn new and healthy ways to cope to make positive choices.

Contact: ATV Program Director at 843-673-2008

Domestic abuse and any difficulties that may arise from trauma can often make reporting the crimes a tough decision. Several factors could deter those affected by violence, including but not limited to a fear of loneliness, lack of confidence in professionals, or a belief that the abuse will end or that the abuser will change.

You are never alone, Pee Dee Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Assault has trained victim & trauma advocates available to provide Community Victim Services (CVS) across 7 counties in the Pee Dee Region.

*Contact PDC's 24/7, Confidential Crisis Line:
843-669-4600 or 1-800-273-1820*

STOP THE SILENCE: Your Voice Matters

STOP LIVING IN FEAR: A Safe Place is Waiting for You

Many times, victims/survivors of a domestic abuse situation can be fearful that if they report the abuse or try to leave, then it will put them at further risk.

Whether you need immediate, Emergency Safe Shelter (ESS) or New Beginnings Transitional Shelter (NBTS) for a longer-term stay - Pee Dee Coalition's Shelter Program will ensure that you may be equipped with resources to help you rebuild hope and empower you to live freely again.

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The Silent Witness

The Impact of Domestic Violence on Children

When we think about **domestic violence**, our minds often go to the immediate victims—those experiencing physical, emotional, and psychological abuse at the hands of an abuser. But what about the silent witnesses, the children who live in these households? They may not suffer the physical scars, but the emotional wounds can last a lifetime. Researchers have estimated that **between 3.3 million and 10 million children are exposed to adult domestic violence each year.**

Domestic violence doesn't just harm the direct victims—its impact can ripple through the family. Children who witness abuse often experience deep, lasting trauma that affects their development, relationships, and emotional well-being. There can be **short and long-term effects of domestic violence or abuse** on children, such as: acting out in school, becoming more aggressive, withdrawing from friends and family, increased risk of substance abuse in adulthood, and difficulties forming healthy relationships later in life.

Some children may even assume the role of a caregiver, feeling responsible for their parent's well-being, or believe they are somehow at fault for the violence they witness. These responses often go unnoticed or misunderstood, especially when families feel isolated by the stigma surrounding **domestic violence.**

Sadly, children who grow up in homes with **domestic violence are at a greater risk of continuing the cycle**—whether as future victims or perpetrators. **Each child responds differently to trauma and abuse**, a child's successful recovery depends on them having a good support system, high self-esteem, and healthy friendships. The healing process can't erase the memory, but children can learn healthier coping methods as they mature. **Breaking this cycle** requires early intervention, supportive counseling, and an environment that promotes healing.

Pee Dee Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Assault (PDC) understands the critical need to address the impact of **domestic violence** on children. In the event of suspected child abuse, there are **Durant Children's Center** various on-site services, such as: 24-hour crisis intervention, medical examinations, diagnosis, and treatment, forensic interview, individual and group counseling, legal assistance and more.

Every child deserves a safe, loving environment free from fear and harm.

By focusing on **breaking the cycle of violence** and providing care and support, we can protect these vulnerable children and help them build a future full of hope and opportunity. Together, we can ensure that the next generation grows up knowing love, safety, and peace.

If you or someone you know needs assistance, don't hesitate to contact our crisis line at 843-669-4600 or 1-800-273-1820. Whether you need immediate help or simply want to talk about your situation, PDC has trained advocates ready to assist you.

OCTOBER 2024 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



CHESTERFIELD COUNTY

Contact for Events: **Stacey Short 843-623-7364**

- 10/01/2024 6p-8p · National Night Out Event · Cheraw Community Center, 200 Powe St.
- 10/04/2024 12p-1:30p · Clergy Roundtable · PDC Satellite Center - 339 N Page St, Chesterfield, SC.
- 10/05/2024 3p-6p · Praise in the Park · Centennial Park - Market St. Cheraw, SC.
- 10/07/2024 6p-8p · "Pieces of Me" Art Event (Invite Only) · Pageland Community Center - 1113 W. McGregor St. Pageland, SC
- 10/08/2024 10a-12p · Senior Circle DV Bingo · Cheraw Community Center, 200 Powe St. Cheraw, SC
- 10/10/2024 6p-8p · "Finding Your Voice" Open Mic Night · Chesterfield Family YMCA - 344 East Blvd. Chesterfield, SC
- 10/15/2024 9:30a · EOC HeadStart Parent Presentation · 1345 Dizzy Gillespie Dr. Cheraw, SC
- 10/17/2024 12p · "Wear Purple Day" Balloon Release · Centennial Park - Market St. Cheraw, SC
- 10/23/2024 5p · EOC HeadStart Parent/Staff Presentation · Virtual
- 10/24/2024 1p-2p · Providing Trauma Informed Care to Victim-Survivors of Domestic Violence - Lunch & Learn · Sandhills Medical Foundation, 645 S. Seventh St. McBee, SC
- 10/26/2024 12p-2p · "Male Perspective on DV" · Brother's United - 314 2nd St. Cheraw, SC
- 10/29/2024 12p-2p · "Revive & Thrive" Spa Day for Expectant/New Moms · Chesterfield Family YMCA - 344 East Blvd. Chesterfield, SC

DARLINGTON COUNTY

Contact for Events: **Pam Johnson 843-383-0240**

- 10/01/2024 12a · DVAM Radio PSA · WMSZ 95.9 FM, 649 High Point Rd, Hartsville
- 10/01/2024 12a · Purple & Pearls Social Media Campaign
- 10/01/2024 6p · Hartsville National Night Out · Burry Park 131 Cargill Way, Hartsville, SC
- 10/01/2024 6p · Darlington City Council Meeting · Darlington City Hall, 400 Pearl St., Darlington
- 10/06/2024 11a · DVAM Presentation · True Gospel Church, 2203 Harry Byrd Hwy, Darlington, SC
- 10/07/2024 6p · DVAM Balloon Release · Burry Park 131 Cargill Way, Hartsville
- 10/07/2024 6p · Darlington County Council Meeting · Darlington County EOC, 1625 Harry Byrd Hwy, Darlington, SC
- 10/08/2024 5:30p · Hartsville City Council Meeting · City Hall, 100 E Carolina Ave Hartsville, SC
- 10/08/2024 6:30p · Society Hill Town Hall Meeting · Society Hill Town Hall, 280 S Main St., Society Hill, SC
- 10/09/2024 12:30p · Darlington County First Steps DVAM Presentation · Darlington County First Steps, 147 W Carolina Ave, Hartsville, SC
- 10/10/2024 7p · Daughters of Distinction Dominion Church · 1355 East McIver Rd, Darlington, SC
- 10/12/2024 10a · Women's Health Fair Luncheon · Emmanuel Baptist Church, 900 N Marquis Hwy, Hartsville, SC
- 10/14/2024 6:15p · Lamar Town Meeting · Virtual
- 10/17/2024 All Day · Wear Purple Day
- 10/19/2024 10a · DVAM Walk · Darlington Square 1 Public Sq., Darlington
- 10/23/2024 12p · Drop-in Luncheon · Hartsville Satellite Center, 460 W Carolina Ave., Hartsville, SC
- 10/24/2024 5p · Treats in the Streets Hartsville · TBA
- 10/30/2024 7p · Truth Zone Ministries DVAM Presentation

DILLON COUNTY

Contact for Events: **Glenda Schleich 843-774-0898**

- 10/08/2024 10a · Dad Parenting and DV · 428 Elkins Road, Hamer
- 10/10/2024 7p · Latta Town Council - Why DVAM? · Town Hall, 109 NW Railroad Ave., Latta, SC
- 10/11/2024 5:30p · DV and Family · Dillon County Satellite Center - 1101 Highway 301 N, Dillon, SC
- 10/14/2024 7p · City of Dillon Council - Why DVAM? · 401 W. Main St. City Hall Dillon, SC
- 10/17/2024 10a · Dad Parenting and DV · 2526 Worship St. Little Rock
- 10/19/2024 7p · Lake View Town Council - Why DVAM? · Town Hall - 201 N Main St., Lake View, SC
- 10/19/2024 3p · Purple Paint Party · West Hall, 202 W Main St., Dillon, SC
- 10/22/2024 9a · CWE A Step in Their Shoes · Wellness Center 1647 Commerce Dr., Dillon, SC
- 10/23/2024 7a · Coffee & Talk - Why DVAM? · Visitor Center 106 S. Railroad Ave., Dillon, SC
- 10/23/2024 5p · City Council - Why DVAM? · County Administration Building - 109 S. 3rd Ave.
- 10/25/2024 9a · Why DVAM? · RALI GROUP Virtual
- 10/27/2024 9a · Witnessing DV · Miracle Temple Church, 1210 Huss St., Lake View, SC
- 10/29/2024 11a · Let's Talk Perception Day · Wellness Center 1647 Commerce Dr., Dillon, SC

FLORENCE COUNTY

Contact for Events: **Hope Hanna 843-669-4694**

- 10/08/2024 10a-1p · Senior Fest · Leatherman Senior Center, 600 Senior Way, Florence, SC
- 10/08/2024 10a-11:30a · Wear Purple Day/ Olanta · 103 Park Ave., Olanta, SC
- 10/08/2024 12p-2p · Senior Lunch/Learn · Olanta Library Community Room - 210 E. Hampton St. Olanta, SC
- 10/10/2024 9a-10a · Cut it Out- Training with FDTC Cosmetology Class · Florence Darlington Tech Cosmetology Center - 122 Palmetto Rd. Florence, SC
- 10/10/2024 12p-2p · Senior Lunch/Learn Bingo · Pamplico Library Community Room, 100 Main St. Pamplico, SC
- 10/12/2024 3p-5p · In Her Shoes Community Workshop · Leatherman Center 600 Senior Way, Florence, SC
- 10/12/2024 4p-9p · Pride in the Pee Dee · City Center Market, 700 Sanborn St. Florence, SC
- 10/15/2024 11:30a-12p · Pastoral Zoom on Domestic Violence · Zoom
- 10/15/2024 10a-11:30a · Wear Purple Day/Coward · 3720 US 52, Coward, SC
- 10/16/2024 12p-2p · Senior Lunch/Learn Bingo · Coward Community Center, East Friend Field, Coward, SC
- 10/17/2024 9a-3p · DVAM Awareness Parenting Conference · First Baptist Church, 300 S. Irby St., Florence, SC
- 10/17/2024 All Day · Wear Purple Day
- 10/19/2024 11:15a-1p · The Power of Change Teams Meeting with Williamsburg DSS · Teams Meeting
- 10/22/2024 10a-11:30a · Wear Purple Day/Scranton · 1818 US Hwy 52, Scranton, SC
- 10/22/2024 11:30a-1p · Law Enforcement Lunch & Learn on Domestic Violence · New Ebenezer Church, 307 S. Ravenal St. Florence, SC
- 10/24/2024 All Day · National Day of Giving
- 10/24/2024 12p-2p · Senior Lunch/Learn Bingo · 1818 US Hwy 52, Scranton, SC
- 10/28/2024 12p-2p · Pastor Roundtable on DV · 114 Broadway St. Johnsonville, SC
- 10/31/2024 Trunk or Treat · City of Florence, Barnes St. Florence, SC

OCTOBER 2024 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



MARION COUNTY

Contact for Events: **Danyell Rogers 843-423-6568**

- 10/01/2024 8a · Paint the Town Purple · Main St. Marion, SC
- 10/05/2024 11a · Kickball Tournament · 800 N. Withlacoocee St. Marion, SC
- 10/05/2024 11a · Cali's Snow Cones · 800 Withlacoocee St. Marion, SC
- 10/08/2024 6p · National Night Out · 6874 Hwy 908, Brittons Neck
- 10/09/2024 10a · In Her Shoes Workshop · 109 W. Godbold St. Marion, SC
- 10/10/2024 9a · Pregnancy & DV · McLeod Health (closed event)
- 10/11/2024 9a-4p · McLeod Mobile 3D Mammogram - Marion's Sheriff Office · 1811 N Hwy 501 Bypass, Marion, SC
- 10/12/2024 3p-5p · In Her Shoes Workshop · Senator Letterman Senior Center, 600 Senior Way
- 10/19/2024 10a-12p · Franklin Home Health's Alzheimer's Walk · Franklin Training Center 1405 N. Main St
- 10/19/2024 8a · Raccoon Festival · Sellers Main St.
- 10/24/2024 6p · A Night to Remember · 514 Mullins St., Nichols, SC
- 10/31/2024 10a · Loving Yourself After Trauma - DV from a Male's Perspective · 109 Godbold St., Marion, SC

MARLBORO COUNTY

Contact for Events: **Wendy Woods 843-479-0882**

- 10/01/2024 6p-8p · Purple Lights on Parsonage Street · 108 Parsonage St., Bennettsville, SC
- 10/03/2024 2p-4:30p · Niah's Lemonade Stand Against DV · 108 Parsonage St., Bennettsville, SC
- 10/05/2024 10a-12p · Clio Cotton Festival · Downtown Clio, SC
- 10/07/2024 6p-8p · Clio Turns Purple Against DV · Town Hall, Clio, SC
- 10/13/2024 11:30a · Prayers in Purple · St. Michael's Hope Ministries, Inc.
- 10/15/2024 11a-1p · Clippers and Conversations: DV a Male's Perspective · 214 E Main St. Bennettsville, SC
- 10/25/2024 7:30p-9:30p · MCHS Bulldogs Go Purple Against DV · Mcalpine Stadium Bennettsville, SC
- 10/26/2024 10a-1p · Riders Against DV · Blenheim, Clio, Mccoll, Wallace, Bennettsville
- 10/30/2024 10a-11a · Senior Circle · MWE Library, Bennettsville, SC
- 10/31/2024 6p-8p · Trick or Treat on Parsonage Street · 108 Parsonage St., Bennettsville, SC

WILLIAMSBURG COUNTY

Contact for Events: **Sarah Godwin 843-354-6481**

- 10/02/2024 5:15p · Mayoral Proclamation · 2 Courthouse Sq., Kingstree, SC
- 10/03/2024 11a · Promoting Awareness and Action for Domestic Assault & Substance Abuse · 306 N. Main St., Hemingway, SC
- 10/07/2024 6p · County DVAM Proclamation Signing · 201 W. Main St. Kingstree, SC
- 10/10/2024 9a · Pregnancy & DV · McLeod Health (closed event)
- 10/17/2024 11a · WC3 - DVAM Spotlight · Zoom
- 10/31/2024 6p · Boo Fest Trunk-or-Treat · 375 Nelson Blvd., Kingstree, SC

STATE-WIDE EVENTS

- 10/01/24 10a · SCAG's Silent Witness Ceremony
- 10/03/24 NBTS Donor Recognition Dinner (Wallace) [Invite Only]
- 10/10/24 ESS Shelter Donor Recognition Dinner (Florence) [Invite Only]
- October "A Place to Lay Their Heads" Shelter Anniversary Campaign (35 years for Emergency Safe Shelter & 20 years for New Beginnings Transitional Shelter)

NATIONAL EVENTS

- October Domestic Violence Awareness Month
- Elder Abuse Awareness Month

REGIONAL Presentations are held at Town, City, and County meetings all month.



#ITSTOPSWITHYOU

**24/7 Confidential Crisis Line:
843-669-4600 or 1-800-273-1820**

Safe Voting Tips for Domestic Violence Survivors



Vote when your abuser is busy.



Consider vote-by-mail options.



Do Research beforehand and vote quickly.



Ask a poll worker about secret voting.



Practice self-care before and after voting.



Ask a friend to support you.



Each survivor should be empowered to decide what is helpful or appropriate for them when engaging in the political process, and that process should always be safe, private, and trauma-informed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENTION DONORS!

Pee Dee Coalition values your generous, continuous support over the years. To ensure we have your correct information, please contact Support Services to verify and/or update your mailing and email address!

Contact: supportservices@peedeecoalition.org or call 843-673-2002

FOR DONATIONS:

MAIL TO:
Pee Dee Coalition
P.O. Box 1351
Florence, SC 29503



ONLINE DONATIONS:
www.peedeecoalition.org/online-donation
or use the QR code provided

Williamsburg County's Durant Children's Center Coming Soon

The Williamsburg County's Durant Children's Center is getting its final touches. Help us create a safe and welcoming space for children in need. We're seeking room sponsorships for our new Durant Children's Center, located at 119 Hampton Dr., Kingstree, SC. Your support will ensure that each room provides comfort, care, and a sense of security for the children we serve. Sponsor a room today and make a lasting impact in the lives of vulnerable children.

For more information about room sponsorship call 843-669-4694 or email: Ellen Hamilton, Executive Director at ehamilton@peedeecoalition.org



Donor Recognition & Shelter Program Celebration Dinner



May of 2024 marked 20 years of the New Beginnings Transitional Shelter and 35 years of the Emergency Safe Shelter. If you received an invitation to one of our Shelter Program Donor Recognition Dinners, please remember to RSVP! We look forward to celebrating your generous support and sharing how you've made a difference.

Don't miss this special evening—RSVP today!

Shelter Program Campaign: "A Place to Lay Their Heads"

There's still time to make a difference! As part of our 'A Place to Lay Their Heads' Shelter Anniversary Campaign, we're raising funds for critical renovations and repairs to ensure our shelters remain safe and welcoming for those in need. Your donation will provide comfort, safety, and hope for survivors. Help us reach our goal—every contribution counts! To help this cause, visit

www.peedeecoalition.org/a-place-to-lay-their-heads
for more information.

A PLACE
to LAY
THEIR
HEADS