



Please join HATC in recognizing and raising awareness of the harmful effects of domestic violence. Throughout the month of October, HATC acknowledges domestic violence survivors and commits to fostering healing from the traumatic effects of this form of violence.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) evolved from the Day of Unity held in October 1981. In October 1987, the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month was observed. Congress designated October as DVAM in 1989. The three priorities that are honored during this month are, 1) mourning those who have died because of domestic violence, 2) celebrating those who have survived, and 3) working collectively to end violence. The purple ribbon has become a symbol of one's commitment to stand against domestic violence.

Domestic violence is prevalent in every community, and affects people of every age, socio-economic status, sexual orientation, gender, race, religion, or nationality. Physical violence is often accompanied by emotionally abusive and controlling behavior as part of a much larger, systematic pattern of dominance and control. Domestic violence can result in physical injury, psychological trauma, and even death. The devastating consequences of domestic violence can last a lifetime and contribute to generational trauma.

Relevant Educational Materials

[Domestic Violence in Washington State - National Coalition Against Domestic Violence](#)

[Women Survivors of Domestic Violence and the Stand They are Taking to Help Others - Amnesty International](#)

[Ethan's Story - as told by RAINN \(Rape, Abuse, and Incest National Network\), the nation's largest anti-sexual violence organization](#)

[Intimate Partner Violence, Sexual Violence, and Stalking Among Men - Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

[Alarming Effects of Children's Exposure to Domestic Violence - Psychology Today](#)