



November 2015
November is Domestic Violence Awareness
month throughout Canada

Honor the Silent Witnesses in your area during Domestic Violence Awareness month. Please attend one of the events happening in your community to honor those who have lost their lives in acts of domestic violence.



Visit the Silent Witness website

From the Board

As we look around our state and country for Silent Witness (SW) events during October, it's impressive to see all of the activities focused on helping people understand the seriousness of domestic violence as well as the preventative measures that individuals, family and the community can take to protect the vulnerable and support them to identify an unsafe relationship and to know how to work toward finding safety. Included in this Newsletter is a report of the events that took place at Normandale Community College in Bloomington, MN during National Domestic Violence Awareness month. Normandale is an example of campus activities in Minnesota during in recognition of education, awareness and prevention of domestic violence.



Following is an article published on Friday, October 09, 2015 by Steven Geller - Director of Media and Public Relations, <http://www.normandale.edu/community/newsroom/news-articles/normandale-hosts-events-for-domestic-violence-awareness-week-on-october-19-23>

NORMANDALE HOSTS EVENTS FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS WEEK ON OCTOBER 19-23

Friday, October 09, 2015 By Steven Geller - Director of Media and Public Relations

Normandale Community College hosted a series of events during Domestic Violence Awareness Week, from Monday, October 19 to Friday, October 23.

As reported on the college website, the events included the Silent Witness National Initiative, an Art Wall Display in the Kopp Student Center, a Restorative Yoga session, a speaker from the Tubman Center, a screening and discussion of the documentary Private Violence and Cornerstone staff on site to answer questions or provide resources.

On Thursday, October 22 from 6 to 8 p.m. there was a discussion in the Kopp Student Center Garden Room, and a screening and discussion of the documentary Private Violence. A candle light vigil was held for those who have died as a result of domestic violence this past year. Staff from a local shelter was available to answer questions after the screening.

Throughout the week, there were Art Wall displays with information, resources, reflection and activities. There was also a Silent Witness National Initiative with red figures around campus to represent women killed by domestic violence.

All of these events and many others too numerous to mention have taken place to educate and create the awareness for treatment and prevention of all forms of abuse and violence.

We at Silent Witness carry a responsibility and passion for our part in creating public displays of our witnesses to raise and lead vulnerable people into addressing the reality of the safety of their relationship and getting the support through local agencies, family, friends! It's those we know and care for you that help you find the courage to make changes that heal your life.

Since the beginning of the organization, we have remained dedicated to promoting peace and safety in relationships and to restore the dignity and respect for both persons. Won't you join us in doing your part to educate and support those who are suffering with abuse and/or violence in relationships? Check with your local Domestic Violence network as well as the social service in your community to gain more information and insight about the available services for survivors, victims, perpetrators and family members. Spread the word to End Violence Now!

*Yours in peace,
Jacquie Skog*

DV Awareness around the campuses:

The Silent Witness Day of Remembrance at Roger Williams University (Bristol, RI) honored those lost to domestic violence in a day of remembrance and solidarity.

Participants wore black shirts that said "remember my name" across the back and laminated shields representing RI community members tragically lost to domestic violence.



In collaboration with the event, dance students engaged in a performance art piece entitled "Stand", a durational art installation that raises awareness of domestic violence and its victims. The progressive slow motion of "Stand" is a kinetic metaphor. The hour-long process of going from a prone position to STANDING, symbolizes the extensive time it often takes for those touched by violence to extract themselves from its cyclical patterns of physical and mental abuse. The choreographer's intent is to honor all victims of violence by ending up STANDING on our own two feet. The performer's start by falling and end by walking away - fueled by personal agency and communal support. Divided we fall, but together we STAND.



[CLICK HERE FOR NEWS VIDEO](#)
15th Annual Ohio Silent Witness Event

SYLVANIA, Ohio (13abc Action News) - Each and every year, more and more people are added to the list of domestic violence victims.

"They weren't from Cleveland or Columbus or Chicago or New York," Mary Krueger, the Director of the Women's Center at BGSU, said. "Every one of them was from northwest Ohio."

Thursday was the 15th annual Silent Witness

unveiling. The ceremony includes more than 60 life-sized wooden silhouettes. Each one represents a woman killed at the hands of her partner.

This year, Joscelyn Jones, 16, was on of them. Police say she was stabbed to death by her former boyfriend, also 16. Jones' brother, Johnny, 14, was also killed in the attack.

"I'm a voice for the women that are no longer here, for the people that are no longer here," Karen Rossbach, who attended the ceremony said.

Rossbach reads the stories of one of the victims. She herself, is a survivor of an abusive relationship.

"I know that I have a voice and I can speak from experience," Rossbach said. "Hopefully I can affect somebody, even if it's one person."

The ultimate goal is to honor the people, and make sure they're always remembered, and never become another statistic.

How can you help?

The work of Silent Witness is more important now than ever. Click on the button below to make a gift now and help us continue our efforts.