

SPECIAL EDITION—DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

NEWS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Barbara Warner Domestic Violence Workplace Policy:

On Wednesday, April 16, 2008, during National Crime Victims Rights Week, Governor Ted Strickland signed an Executive Order named The Barbara Warner Domestic Violence Workplace Policy. The Barbara Warner Domestic Violence Workplace Policy was created by a working group committee headed by Hollie Hinton of the Governor's Office for Women's Initiatives and Outreach (GOWIO).

In the Executive Order, Governor Strickland identifies domestic violence as a public health issue in Ohio understanding that domestic violence is a pattern of control used by one person to gain power and control over family or household members. Domestic violence may include the following types of abuse: verbal, emotional, financial/resource, sexual and physical. Domestic violence can affect people of all ages, gender, religion, income, race, culture, education and sexual orientation. Additionally, domestic violence has had an increasing impact on the workplace. Domestic violence does not stay at home. Domestic

violence can affect employees in the workplace by interfering with the employee's ability to safely perform their work responsibilities. Employees affected by domestic violence may also have attendance problems due to the violence and this can result in an employee's low moral and low productivity. Some other issues identified in the Barbara Warner Domestic Violence Workplace Policy are as follows:

- Domestic Violence and Its Impact on the Workplace Can Create Economic Challenges for Employers
- Ohio is Committed to Promoting the Health and Safety of Its Employees and to Making a Significant Difference in the Fight to End Domestic Violence

The Executive Order has been named after Barbara Warner, who was an employee of the Ohio Department of Health. Mrs. Warner was a victim of domestic violence throughout the course of her marriage and was murdered by her husband on May 27, 1997. This order is critical because it sends the message that the State of Ohio is

committed to having its employees work in healthy environments free from abusive behaviors. Ultimately, it is the hope of the Barbara Warner Domestic Violence Workplace Policy that it will provide guidance for management and employees on how to address and reduce the occurrence of domestic violence and its devastating impact on and in the workplace. To see the Barbara Warner Domestic Violence Workplace Policy in full text please go to the following link: <http://governor.ohio.gov/Portals/0/Executive%20Orders/Executive%20Order%202008-08S.pdf>

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, which evolved from the first Day of Unity observed in October, 1981 by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV). The intent was to connect domestic violence advocates and service providers across the country who were working to end violence against women and their children. Some editions of the *Criminal Justice Weekly* in October will be devoted to Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

TRAINING/RESOURCES

Empty Place at the Table Memorial Exhibit: This exhibit will be on display in the Atrium at the Ohio Statehouse on October 20 from 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. in observance of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The exhibit demonstrates the devastating results of violence against women and children and helps ensure that these victims are not

forgotten – and also reveals how domestic violence undeniably leaves an empty place at the table. *If you are interested in participating or would like more information about the exhibit, please contact ACTION OHIO: Coalition for Battered Women at 888/622.9315.*
Calendar of Events: The Ohio Domestic Violence Network's website contains

information on various events that are being held around the state in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. *To view the calendar, visit <http://www.odvn.org/>*

Department Website Dedicated to Domestic Violence Awareness Month: Because OCJS, through the Department

TRAINING/RESOURCES CONT.

of Public Safety, is committed to helping victims of domestic violence in every effort to ensure their safety and independent, violent-free lifestyle, a Website has been developed for the month which includes valuable resources and information. *Visit the Website at: <http://www.ocjs.ohio.gov/Domestic%20Violence%20Month/domesticviolence.html>*

Cell Phone Collection: OCJS hopes to raise awareness of this very serious crime by partnering with the Verizon Wireless HopeLine campaign during the month of October to collect unused and/or inactive wireless phones. Phones are refurbished and distributed to potential victims by participating domestic violence organizations and police departments. The phones are programmed with 911 and other emergency phone numbers to provide protection 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. *If you would like to donate, please send phone(s) to OCJS, 1970 West Broad St., 5th floor, Columbus, OH 43223.*

Clothesline Project Display: Thanks to a donation by the Ohio Department of Health's Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Prevention Program, OCJS will have a Clothesline Project (CLP) display in the Rhodes State Office Tower in Downtown Columbus during the month of October. The display will educate, document and raise awareness to the impact of domestic violence through shirts decorated by the victims. The CLP is a

program started on Cape Cod, MA, in 1990 to address the issue of violence against women. It is a vehicle for women affected by violence to express their emotions by decorating a shirt. They then hang the shirt on a clothesline to be viewed by others as testimony to the problem of violence against women. *For more info, visit <http://www.clotheslineproject.org/index.htm>*

Needed Items Drive: In recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the Ohio Department of Public Safety is helping domestic violence victims by organizing a needed items drive. All donated items will be distributed to domestic violence shelters in Clermont and Brown Counties - YWCA House of Peace, Adams County - Reach Out, Inc., Vinton County - A Shepherd's House and Sojourner House in Mahoning county in memory of Kim Sullivan. Kim was a victims' advocate who was killed in a car accident this year. The needed items drive will last through Friday, October 30, 2009.

OCJS Highlighting Information Cards during Domestic Violence Awareness Month: In our effort to continue providing useful tools to the groups we serve, OCJS is highlighting three information cards that are valuable to the community, including: *Domestic Violence Law Enforcement Tip Card; Teens & Dating Violence Awareness Cards; and What You Should Know About Family Violence.* To order any of the cards, please call 614/466.7782.

Light Up Ohio in purple!: Imagine the State of Ohio lit up with Purple Lights to raise awareness of domestic violence! We can do it - with your help! Domestic Violence Center (DVC) in Cleveland is very excited about launching their second year of a county-wide awareness campaign called Purple Light Nights (PLN); a campaign designed to shine a light on a problem that is often associated with silence and shame. The 2008 turnout was impressive and DVC is hoping to make 2009 bigger and better. This year, the campaign is going statewide with the help of Ohio Domestic Violence Network. The goal is to bring the issue of domestic violence to the forefront - in the minds of everyday citizens, professionals, legislators, and the general public. Join DVC and ODVN in lighting up the state of Ohio with purple lights!

Domestic violence extends far beyond physical abuse. It is a growing problem that can be battled through awareness. Help us ensure the safety of our communities' women, men, children, and teens during Domestic Violence Awareness Month. *For more information on Purple Light Nights, visit the DVC website at <http://www.domesticviolencecenter.org/news-and-events/event-calendar/purple-lights-night.htm>*

GRANTS/FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

2009 Justice Assistance Program-Law Enforcement (JAG LE) Funding Available: OCJS is pleased to announce the availability of 2009 Justice Assistance Program-Law Enforcement (JAG LE) funding to provide essential law enforcement services in Ohio. JAG LE funds projects that reduce crime, increase public safety, and support the Ohio Incident-Based Reporting System (OIBRS). Per Ohio Revised Code Section 5502.62 (C) (6), all law enforcement agencies must be compliant with reporting crime statistics, using either OIBRS or Uniform Crime Reporting, in order to receive funding through OCJS. Programs

under criminal justice departments that are consistently reporting crime statistics are the only law enforcement agencies eligible for OCJS funding pursuant to Ohio law. Funds will be used for: hiring, training, and employing on a continuing basis, new, additional law enforcement officers and necessary support personnel; paying overtime to employed law enforcement officers and necessary support personnel for the purposes of increasing the number of hours worked by such personnel; and purchasing equipment. Seven-month awards will be issued from February 1, 2010 to August 30, 2010. Projects may request a

maximum of \$15,000 of OCJS/JAG LE funds, and there will be a 10 percent cash match requirement on the total project cost. If your agency will receive 2009 JAG funds directly from the U.S. Bureau of Justice Assistance, you will not be eligible to apply for this JAG LE solicitation through OCJS.

For more information, please visit OCJS' website <http://www.ocjs.ohio.gov/Funding/currentsolicitation.htm>. Applications must be postmarked or hand delivered to OCJS by November 16, 2009. Please call 614/466.7782 with questions.

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