



A Woman's Place
ON THE ROAD TO FLOURISHING

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month: Community Urged to Take Action

DOYLESTOWN, PA (10/12/15) – A Woman's Place (AWP), the only domestic violence service and prevention organization in Bucks County, urges everyone to take action during October for Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM).

The Bucks County Commissioners have issued a Proclamation acknowledging DVAM and praising AWP's critical role in addressing this vital issue to our community... by providing free and confidential services to victims and their children... and by educating the entire community about domestic violence.

Heather Giampapa, Director of Public Advocacy at AWP notes that, "Local residents have many opportunities this month to make an impact and help stop domestic violence. They can do this by advocating, raising awareness, and supporting AWP. "

These opportunities include:

- October 13 – For the second consecutive year, the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence (PCADV) will hold a roll-call ceremony to read victim's names in the Capitol Rotunda at Harrisburg. AWP is one of 60 PCADV member organizations serving all 67 counties in the state. Representatives from these organizations will join with members of the General Assembly and family survivors to honor the 120 Pennsylvanians who died in domestic violence-related homicides during the past year. PCADV is calling on the General Assembly to enact new legislation that will restrict persons who are subject to Protection From Abuse orders from retaining or obtaining firearms.
- October 14 – Wear purple for **Health Cares About Domestic Violence Day** this Wednesday and start a conversation about the billions of dollars in lost economic productivity every year as a result of domestic violence.

- October 17 – Lace up your shoes and make strides to build a safe and flourishing community at the **Race to Empower 5K Run & 1-Mile Fun Walk**. This year’s event location is a unique trail run at the beautiful wooded campus of the Buckingham Friend’s School in Lahaska. Those who cannot attend are still welcome to run or walk “in spirit” by making an online donation to AWP at <https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/awomansplace>

Evolved from the “Day of Unity” conceived in October 1981, the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month was observed in October 1987. In 1989, the U. S. Congress designated October as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

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About A Woman’s Place

A Woman's Place (AWP) is a community-based social change organization committed to the empowerment of women and to ending intimate and domestic violence for all. For nearly 40 years, AWP has served Bucks County by providing free, confidential, and comprehensive services and support to victims of domestic violence, their children, and the community. AWP’s hotline (1.800.220.8116) is available 24/7 for victims, community members, donors, or volunteers.