

# Press Release

State of Maryland  
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services



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Governor

Anthony G. Brown  
Lt. Governor

Gary D. Maynard  
Secretary

## DPSCS Recognizes October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month

**Towson, MD (October 12, 2011)**--- October has been dedicated to the reduction of domestic violence since 1987, connecting advocates and service providers across the state and nation while bringing public awareness to the issue. Over the years the Maryland Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) has also made domestic violence prevention a centerpiece of our offender supervision and victim service efforts.

In the Division of Parole and Probation (DPP) for instance, supervision of offenders who have been convicted of domestic violence related crimes has been bolstered by comprehensive training for agents on DV cases and victims' rights, automatic notification to agents when an offender has a protective order issued against him or her and more intense supervision of DV offenders. DPP's Office of Victim Services employs Coordinators located throughout the state whose purpose is to provide direct victim services to crime victims whose offenders are being supervised by DPP. They also provide technical assistance to field operations regarding the statutory and policy mandates of victim services, and collaborate with community and criminal justice partners to ensure that the delivery of victim services is seamless.

Technological advancements by the Department's Information, Technology and Communications Division (ITCD) have also impacted domestic violence efforts for Maryland's law enforcement community. ITCD created a DV flag for offender RAP sheets to identify DV related crimes and was key in implementing a protective order regulation that improves the notification process to petitioners/victims – both done in conjunction with the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention.

The DPSCS Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, which uses offender court fees, restitution, and state and federal funds to compensate victims of crime for the physical and psychological losses associated with the crime, honors those affected by domestic violence by participating in community partner events during the month of October.

Events DPSCS staff is participating in this October in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Month include:

### **October 18**

#### **Baltimore County Department of Health Behavioral Health Town Hall Meeting and Health Fair**

Oregon Ridge Lodge Park, 13401 Beaver Dam Road from 10 am to 1:30 pm

**October 11**  
**Sin By Silence (Domestic Violence Conference)**  
Washington DC

**October 19**  
**Division of Parole and Probation Day at the Market**  
North East Market, Baltimore City from 11am-2pm

**October 19**  
**Domestic Violence Awareness Month Twitter Town Hall**  
[www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com) through #reachyouth at 3pm

**October 18**  
**MD Community Resource Locator Resource Fair**  
DSS Drumcastle Center, 6401 York Road Baltimore MD 21212 from 1pm-2pm

**October 26**  
**Domestic Violence Awareness Month Annual Memorial Service**  
Todd Performing Arts Theatre on the campus of Chesapeake College at Wye Mills at 10am.  
Immediately following the service; David Thomas will give a presentation about Cyber Stalking and Domestic Violence.

**October 15**  
**Maryland Crime Victim Resource Center Chocolate Affair**  
Mitchellville, MD at 6pm

**October 28**  
**Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence Annual Meeting and Awards Luncheon**  
Olive Grove Restaurant, Linthicum Heights from 11am – 2pm

For more information on Domestic Violence Awareness in Maryland visit the [Maryland Network Against Domestic Violence's website](#) or learn more about the [Domestic Violence Awareness Project 2011](#) from the National Resource Center on Domestic Violence.

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its employees and the detainees and offenders under its supervision.

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