

# ***GFWC Program – Domestic Violence***

## **Marty Bryan**

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**Objective:** Increase member awareness about and involvement in programs to decrease domestic violence in communities and across the nation.

## **action plan**

### **Become Aware/Learn the Facts!**

- Investigate resources available in your community regarding domestic violence:
  - Is there a shelter for battered women? A hotline?
  - Is there awareness among the community officials and law enforcement? The community in general?
  - Are there educational efforts in local schools, places of worship, local area businesses, and community service organizations?
  - What are the statistics regarding domestic violence in the community? Check with Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence (GCADV), Social Services, law enforcement, local government, hospitals and health departments.

### **Initiate and Support Community Activities.**

- Wear the GFWC Domestic Violence Awareness pin. [www.gfwc.org](http://www.gfwc.org)
- Receive Legislative Action Alerts from the National Network to End Domestic Violence and become an advocate. (See Resources)
- Lobby for stricter statutes to hold abusers accountable. Attend GCADV Legislative Day.
- Donate books to your local shelter or libraries. Volunteer to tutor victims and their children, if needed.
- Educate your club and community members by presenting programs, workshops, and speakers and distribute materials provided by GFWC partner organizations. (See resources)
- Explore events such as the Candlelight Vigil or Tree of Remembrance [www.gfwc.org](http://www.gfwc.org)
- Support local shelters:
  - Volunteer your time at the local shelter
  - Start a literacy program and tutor residents; read to the children and/or help with homework; donate school supplies, educational games, and videos.
  - Raise funds for the shelter to be used as needed.
  - Donate food, toiletries, clothing and other needed items.
  - Offer to paint rooms, plant flowers, or provide other needed services.
  - Hold a holiday party, summer picnic etc. for shelter residents
  - Adopt a family for the holidays
  - Donate prepaid phone cards to shelters
  - Provide babysitting services while women go to court or job interviews
  - If approved by shelter, educate residents about safety planning including packing a getaway kit. Contact GFWC Headquarters for more information (See Resources)

- Host a “Run For Your Life” run/walkathon fundraising event for the local shelter; order the “how-to” fact sheet from GFWC Headquarters (See Resources)
- Donate professional attire to battered women seeking employment [www.dressforsuccess.org](http://www.dressforsuccess.org)
- Contact local veterinarians/kennels and arrange for the housing of pets while victims are in shelters. Be a pet foster parent for Ahimsa House. (See Resources)
- Assist with or institute job training/career skills or internet safety programs. [www.NNEDV.org](http://www.NNEDV.org)
- Donate used cell phones for women in domestic abuse situations, enlist a local store as a drop-off point, collect phones, and then mail using prepaid shipping label found on [www.NCADV.org](http://www.NCADV.org). Phones may also be delivered or mailed to GCADV. (See Resources)
- Assemble First Night Kits, Birthday Bags, Anger Kits, or Bedtime Snack Sacks and donate to local shelter, [www.gfwc.org](http://www.gfwc.org)
- Provide press kits and encourage newspaper articles/write letters to the editor about domestic abuse and teen dating violence.
- Wear purple, the color designated for domestic violence awareness, during October – National Domestic Violence Awareness Month.
- Encourage local businesses to display purple lights in storefront windows and provide purple ribbons along with local and national domestic violence hotline numbers during October.
- Initiate a “Cut It Out” domestic violence program with local hairdressers who educate their clients about domestic violence and where to get help in the community. (See Resources)

### Prevention

- Promote The Teen Action Campaign, *See It and Stop It*, a public education campaign by and for teens. [www.seeitandstopit.org](http://www.seeitandstopit.org) for an online toolkit, posters, radio and television public service announcements, and publicity materials.
- Distribute *Connect*, a resource that will help parents engage teens and adolescents in discussions about violence against women. [www.EndAbuse.org](http://www.EndAbuse.org)
- Obtain information on Coaching Boys Into Men, which contains helpful tips and advice to stop patterns of violence. [www.EndAbuse.org](http://www.EndAbuse.org)
- Educate club on bullying. Work with schools, PTA, and other groups to eliminate bullying. <http://StopBullyingNow.hrsa.gov>.

## Resources

### Ahimsa House

PO Box 8181, Atlanta, GA 31106

P: 404-496-4038 Crisis Line: 404-452-6248 / [www.ahimsahouse.org](http://www.ahimsahouse.org)

Email: [info@ahimsahouse.org](mailto:info@ahimsahouse.org)

*Georgia’s only organization solely dedicated to providing shelter for animal victims of domestic violence.*

### Cut It Out

Salons Against Domestic Abuse Fund

401 N. Michigan Avenue, Suite 2200, Chicago, IL 60611

Phone: 312-527-6765 / [www.cutitout.org](http://www.cutitout.org)

*Cut It Out, a program of the Salons Against Domestic Abuse Fund, mobilizes salon professionals to fight domestic abuse in communities across the U.S., training salon professionals to recognize warning signs and refer clients to local resources.*

**Family Violence Prevention Fund (FVPPF)**

383 Rhode Island Street, Suite 304, San Francisco, CA 94103

Phone: 415-252-8900 / [www.endabuse.org](http://www.endabuse.org)

E-mail: [gfwcinfo@endabuse.org](mailto:gfwcinfo@endabuse.org)

*The Family Violence Prevention Fund (FVPPF) is a national leader in educating the public, developing model programs and passing legislation throughout the U.S. to stop violence against women and children.*

**Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence (GCADV)**

114 New Street, Suite B, Decatur, GA 30030

P: 404-209-0280 / F: 404-766-3800 / [www.gcadv.org](http://www.gcadv.org)

Contact: Beck Dunn, Director

*GCADV supports its members programs to achieve safety and justice for domestic violence victims*

**Men Stopping Violence**

533 W. Howard Ave., Decatur, GA 30030

P: 404-270-9894 / 1-866-717-9317/ F: 404-270-9895 / [www.menstoppingviolence.org](http://www.menstoppingviolence.org)

*A social change organization dedicated to ending men's violence against women.*

**National Coalition Against Domestic Violence**

P. O. Box 18749, Denver, CO 80218

P: 303-839-1852, ext. 108 / F: 303-831-9251 / [www.ncadv.org](http://www.ncadv.org)

*NCADV is a coalition of local, state, regional and national groups who support community based, non-violent alternatives for battered women and their children.*

**National Domestic Violence Hotline**

3423 Bee Cave Road, Austin, TX 78746

Contact: Cheryl Cates

Phone: 512-685-6366

*The hotline is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, for victims and anyone calling on their behalf, to provide crisis intervention, safety planning, information and referrals to agencies in all 50 states.. Assistance available in English and Spanish, with interpreter services.*

Hotline: 1-800-799-SAFETY / TTY: 1-800-787-3224

**National Network To End Domestic Violence**

660 Pennsylvania Ave SE, Suite 303, Washington, DC 20003

P: 202-543-5566 / F : 202-543-5626 / [www.NNEDV.org](http://www.NNEDV.org)

Contact : Cheryl O'Donnell / [codonnell@nnedv.org](mailto:codonnell@nnedv.org)

*The NNEDV, representing state domestic violence programs, is dedicated to creating a social, political, and economic environment in which violence against women no longer exists.*

**National Resource Center on Domestic Violence (NRCDV)**

6400 Flank Drive, Suite 1300, Harrisburg, PA 17112.

P: 1-800-537-2238 / F: 717-545-9456 / [www.nrcdv.org](http://www.nrcdv.org)

*The National Resource on Domestic Violence provides support to all organizations/individuals working to end violence in the lives of victims and their children.*