

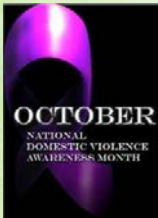
Through Their Eyes...



OCTOBER 2013

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

Celebrating Domestic Violence Awareness Month



Every day in the United States a woman or a man is physically, sexually, or emotionally abused by their intimate partner. The results are always painful and sometimes bring tragic consequences for victims and their loved ones.

This issue of Domestic Violence is not new and continues to invade the lives of people of every race, age, sexual orientation, religion and gender. It can happen to couples who are married, living together or who are dating. It affects people of all socioeconomic backgrounds and education levels.

For this reason every year during the month of October, victims/survivors and victim services providers throughout the nation demonstrate their support to victims by bringing awareness to this plight. Domestic Violence Awareness Month evolved from the first Day of Unity observed in October 1981 by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. The intent was to connect battered women's advocates who were working across the nation to end violence

against women and their children. The Day of Unity soon became a special week when a range of activities were conducted at the local, state, and national levels.

In October 1987, the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month was observed. That same year the first national toll-free hotline was begun. In 1989 the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month Commemorative Legislation was passed by the U.S. Congress. Such legislation has passed every year since with NCADV providing key leadership in this effort.

In October 2013, the problem persists. Organizations and agencies such as the S.C. Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services are responding to domestic violence in a coordinated, collaborative effort in partnership with local, state, and national organizations to bring needed awareness that educate communities about the seriousness of domestic violence.

Source: National Coalition Against Domestic Violence

**FROM THE
SOUTH CAROLINA
VICTIM'S BILL OF RIGHTS**

Victim Rights #2 The Right to Be Informed

Be reasonably informed when the accused or convicted person is arrested, released from custody, or has escaped.



The Purple Ribbon: Its Meaning and Its Power

In addition to Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the purple ribbon is used to symbolize several other causes, including hate crimes, Crohn's Disease, drug overdose awareness, Fibromyalgia awareness, stroke awareness, March of Dimes Awareness, child neglect, chronic pain awareness, and several types of cancer.

Although purple is a symbol of pain and suffering that reminds us of the bruises many people have sustained at the hands of their abusers, purple is also a symbol of hope for those affected by domestic violence. People wearing purple ribbons let victims and sufferers know someone cares about them, and they want to help end domestic violence. Wearing the color

purple or your purple ribbon in public not only raises awareness, but also inspires more people to get involved.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month is a time to remind our country of the hidden acts of violence many women, children and men face daily in their homes; a place they once associated with comfort and love. Wearing a purple ribbon is an easy way to show your support to end domestic violence. In addition to demonstrating support for victims and advocates, the display of purple ribbons throughout a community conveys a powerful message that there is no place for domestic violence in homes, neighborhoods, workplaces, or schools of its citizens.

There are many easy ways to display your purple ribbon:

Attach purple ribbon pins to your shirt, hat, bag, wallet, keys, etc.

Tie a purple ribbon to your car's antenna.

Wear items such as t-shirts, hats and bags with embroidered purple ribbons.

Hang purple ribbons on doors that are frequently used.

Wrap purple ribbons around highly visible trees and/or lampposts.

Source: Hubbard House



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>What is Domestic</i>	2
<i>Domestic Violence: A</i>	2
<i>Victim Specializations:</i>	3
<i>DV Organizations</i>	3
<i>Hearing Notifications</i>	4
<i>Upcoming Events</i>	4
<i>Communique'</i>	5
<i>Agency Spotlight</i>	5
<i>VSC Spotlight</i>	6
<i>The Silent Witness</i>	6

What is Domestic Violence?

It as a pattern of abuse in which one person in an intimate relationship misuses their power and control over the other person in the relationship. Domestic violence includes physical, emotional, sexual, mental, and economic abuse. The repeated violent and abusive behaviors can occur in a current or former intimate partner relationship. The behaviors can happen occasionally or continuously and often worsens over time. These relationships are developed in a violent setting in which victims are pressured, bullied, intimidated, degraded, and exploited. This setting creates an atmosphere of fear that serves the perpetrator in controlling the victim. Domestic violence offenses and crimes are quite different from stranger perpetrated crimes since the offender usually have unlimited access and knowledge of their victims that is used to strengthen their control over victims.

Help is Available

If you or someone you know is experiencing abuse, you may call the **National Domestic Violence Hotline** at **1-800-799-SAFE (7233)**, **1-800-787-3224 (TTY)** or contact your local domestic violence center to talk with someone about it.

THROUGH THEIR EYES...

Domestic Violence: A Probation Officer's View

One of the most difficult skills that a probation officer must acquire is the ability to properly supervise the perpetrator of a domestic violence crime. More so than property or drug related crimes, the offender is usually in deep denial about his or her culpability and will usually blame the system for his current legal difficulties. This is not unusual. In fact there is a deep-seated denial in our society about the entire issue of domestic violence.

A second look at this problem will usually involve a coordinated community response of some sort. This will most likely involve change in existing philosophies and existing procedures. As probation departments evolve, though, they will impact the other service and law enforcement providers in the area. No one department or agency has enough resources to address the entire problem. The first step in taking a second look is to examine some basic assumptions of the staff culture of many Probation Departments.

• **Error #1** - "DV offenders are easy to spot"...

Actually, these type of perpetrators cross the span from polite and cooperative to extremely sadistic. Only about 27% will have drug or alcohol addictions. Some will have a terrible employment history and some will be pillars of the community. As Probation Officers, we cannot fashion our response to the problem of DV by our perception of how cooperative the offender may seem.

• **Error #2** - "Domestic Violence always happens because both participants in a relationship share at least *some* of the blame."...Accepting this theory means that physical violence is a natural result of certain *types* of relationships. This plays into the concept that the victim is a significant part of the problem. This follows from the theory that the woman is provoking the violence. That if she wants the violence to stop, she should change her behavior to comply with the wishes of the man. This takes responsibility from the offender and places at least part of it on the victim. In no other type of assault cases do we, the PO's, make this leap of logic. Actually, given our mission to protect the community we must always remember that **no one** deserves to be beaten.

• **Error #3** - They should just leave"...This implies that *our* concept of the relationship is the correct one. Actually the woman may be in terrible danger if she chooses to leave. There may be long standing issues concerning children, family and, money. The victim is best able to judge when and if to terminate a relationship, not the Probation Officer. She may also have secondary issues of addiction, self-medication or abuse that also affect or cloud her decisions. Often these secondary issues are directly related to her involvement in the abusive relationship.

• **Error #4** - "These DV cases are minor issues and generally just clog up the Courts and the Probation Office's ability to deal with serious offenses"... A beating at the hands of a family member is no less painful than a beating at the hands of a stranger. The very fact that the victim actually knows the perpetrator makes it more difficult (not less difficult) to prosecute. The opportunities for intimidation and additional violence are more readily (not less readily) available to the perpetrator. As PO's we should recognize the difficulty of the situation, not minimize it. A person that has been terrorized over months and years often suffers from identification with the kidnapper, despite the fact of being kidnaped.

The Traps

For all of us, as PO's, there are several basic traps the offender will try. These are well known in the DV literature. The offenders will usually try one or more of these very early in the probation supervision period.

• **Different religions trap**: "In *my* religion, we practice beliefs that subordinate the woman. This conviction is a religious freedom issue"

• **Different culture trap**: "You are not of my culture. If you were, you would know that in *my* culture things with women are very different. This conviction shows a lack of sensitivity to diversity in this country."

• **Crazy Maker trap**: "I am highly educated and well respected. This is a travesty. Why don't you spend time supervising bank robbers instead of me?"

• **Violence trap**: "*She* assaults me! I only weigh 110 pounds and I am a very sick man. Listen to *me*. How could I terrify anyone?"

• **Recovery trap**: "I've quit using drugs. I've been clean for 2 months now. Look how hard I'm trying. I'm doing this for her."

• **Cooperation trap**: "You're right. I've been unaware of my anger. This experience is just what I needed. It took *you*, a brilliant PO, to show me the error of my ways."

• **The Spouse trap**: "Look at her...just *look* at her. She uses drugs. Her grandparents have her kids. She can't keep a job. She keeps calling you up with untrue stories.

• **The Pitiful trap**: "I've lost my job, I can't see my wife or kids. She cleaned out the checking account. I have to pay these fines and *you're* on my case all the time.



Victim Specializations

The needs and services for crime victims are as varied as the extent and nature of the crimes.

Specializations in victimization have emerged in the last 20 years to fully address the diverse needs of victims. The SCDPPPS Office of Victim Services is dedicated to providing services and assistance to victims that are meaningful and helpful. In this series, we will share several specializations that are deemed the most prevalent by the United States Department of Justice and the Attorney general. These specializations will be presented in no particular order.

Cyberbullying

Bullying is a form of abuse where a weaker person is intimidated through real or perceived imbalance of power with the more powerful individual or group abusing those who are less powerful. Symptoms can look a lot like the criminal conduct of harassment.

Cyberbullying is the use of the Internet and other related electronic means to harass, harm and intimidate another person in a deliberate, repeated, and hostile manner. It can create a more anonymous and invasive abuse as it can reach a person through cell phone, email or from posting threatening or compromising information on the Internet through social media.

According to the Cyberbullying Research Center, the most victims of cyberbullying are school-aged children, but adults may be victims of cyberstalking and harassment at home and in the workplace.



Domestic Violence Organizations in South Carolina

CASA/Family Systems
Orangeburg, Calhoun & Bamberg
800-298-7228 (Hotline)
803-534-2272 (Hotline)
803-534-2448 (Admin)

Citizens Against Spouse Abuse
Horry & Georgetown
843-448-6206 (Hotline)
843-293-2270 (Admin)

Citizens Opposed to Domestic Abuse
Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton & Jasper
843-770-1070 (Hotline)
843-770-1074 (Admin)

Cumbee Center to Assist Abused Persons
Aiken, Barnwell, Allendale, Edgefield,
McCormick & Saluda
803-641-4162 (Hotline)
803-649-0480 (Admin)

Family Justice Center
Georgetown
843-436-3733 (Hotline)
843-546-3926 (Admin)

Laurens County SAFE Home
Laurens, Saluda & Abbeville
866-598-5932 (Hotline)
864-682-7270 (Admin)

MEG's House
McCormick, Edgefield & Greenwood
800-447-7992 (Hotline)
864-227-1421 (Admin)

My Sister's House, Inc.
Charleston, Berkeley & Dorchester
843-744-3242 (Hotline)
800-273-4673 (Hotline)
843-747-4069 (Admin)

Pee Dee Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Assault
Florence, Darlington, Marion, Chesterfield, Marlboro, Dillon & Williamsburg
843-669-4600 (Hotline)
800-273-1820 (Hotline)
843-669-4694 (Admin)

Safe Harbor, Inc.
Greenville, Oconee, Pickens & Anderson
864-467-3636 (Hotline)
800-291-2139 (Hotline)
864-467-1177 (Admin)

SAFE Homes -- Rape Crisis Coalition
Spartanburg, Cherokee & Union
800-273-5066 (Hotline)
864-583-9803 (Admin)

Safe Passage, Inc.
York, Chester, & Lancaster
800-659-0977 (Hotline)
803-329-3336 (Admin)
803-329-3349 (Admin)

Sistercare, Inc.
Richland, Lexington, Newberry, Fairfield & Kershaw
803-765-9428 (Hotline)
800-637-7606 (Hotline)
803-926-0505 (Admin)

South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault
Statewide
803-256-2900

YWCA of the Upper Lowlands, Inc.
Sumter, Lee & Clarendon
803-775-2763 (DV Hotline)
803-773-4367 (SA Hotline)
803-773-7158 (Admin)

Research on Cyberbullying

There seems to be a connection between self-esteem and cyberbullying victimization. Victims have significantly lower self-esteem than non victims. Again, does cyberbullying cause someone to have low self-esteem, or are students with low self-esteem targeted for cyberbullying? Middle-school victims of cyberbullying score higher on a suicidal ideation scale. Middle school girls are more likely to have experienced cyberbullying in their lifetimes than boys, though this difference disappears when looking at the last 30 days. Looking at the most recent victims of cyberbullying, both boys and girls are likely to report feeling angry, sad, and embarrassed. Slightly more girls than boys feel frustrated, while significantly more boys are scared as a result of cyberbullying.



I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings

The free bird leaps
on the back of the wind
and floats downstream
till the current ends
and dips his wings
in the orange sun rays
and dares to claim the sky.

But a bird that stalks
down his narrow cage
can seldom see through
his bars of rage
his wings are clipped and
his feet are tied
so he opens his throat to sing.

The caged bird sings
with fearful trill
of the things unknown
but longed for still
and his tune is heard
on the distant hill
for the caged bird
sings of freedom

The free bird thinks of
another breeze
and the trade winds soft
through the sighing trees
and the fat worms waiting on a
dawn-bright lawn
and he names the sky his own.

But a caged bird stands on the
grave of dreams
his shadow shouts on a
nightmare scream
his wings are clipped and his
feet are tied
so he opens his throat to sing

The caged bird sings
with a fearful trill
of things unknown
but longed for still
and his tune is heard
on the distant hill
for the caged bird
sings of freedom.

Maya Angelou

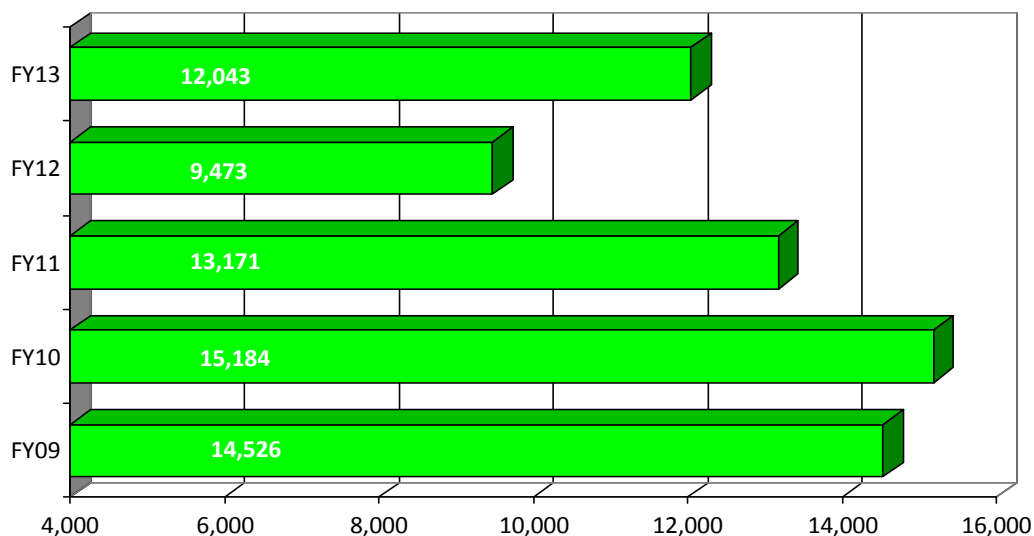
The Office of Victim Services

“Keeping Victims Informed and Involved” Parole Hearing Notifications

Every week the Office of Victim Services sends parole hearing notification letters to victims who are registered with the Department. This notification is mailed 30 days in advance of the hearing to give victims the opportunity to make preparations to attend such as request time off from their jobs, make daycare arrangements, or even make travel and hotel arrangements if they live in another state. It also allows time for the victim to prepare themselves both mentally and physically for the difficult task of appearing at a hearing. If a victim chooses not to attend a hearing, he/she is afforded the opportunity to provide input for the Board to review by submitting letters or petitions, emailing

statements either through the Department’s website or directly to OVS staff or making oral statements to OVS staff. State law provides that the primary victim (or the next of kin if the victim is deceased or is a minor) may submit a videotape of their opposition in lieu of attending the hearing in person. By being notified of the date, time and place of a hearing and their right to attend and speak at the hearing, victims feel validated that their participation in the criminal justice system is essential. In addition, the victim’s right to notice is considered by many to be the most important because it is the initial notice that allows victims access to other rights.

Parole Notifications Sent to Registered Victims



Events

Mayor's Walk Against Domestic Violence
Saturday, Oct 12, 2013 – 9:00 a.m.

Finlay Park, 930 Laurel St., Columbia, SC
Read more: <http://columbia.sc.gov/StopTheViolence>

**Sexual and Domestic Violence and STIs/
HIV (Webinar Series)**

Friday, October 18, 2013 – 10:00 a.m.

This webinar will discuss the connection between sexual and domestic violence, and their connection with STI/HIV infection in cases of intimate partner violence.

Contact: Donna Thompson, SCCADV/ASA Training Coordinator, 803-256-2900 ext. 106

The Impact of Domestic Violence in Underserved Communities

Friday, November 15, 2013 – 9:00 a.m.

Sheraton Myrtle Beach Convention Center Hotel, 2101 Oak Street, Myrtle Beach, SC
Contact Donna Thompson, SCCADV/ASA Training Coordinator at 803-256-2900 ext. 106

Sexual Trauma Services of the Midlands

Abuse in Later Life: Cross-training for Victim Services Providers

October 16, 2013 – 8:30 a.m.

Contact STSM @ (803) 790-8208 or email: stsm@stsm.org

Probation Officer's View Continued

• *The Judicial Error trap*: “Even *she* says it didn’t happen. She told you this is a mistake and that she loves me. This is a huge miscarriage of justice by you people.”

As a PO, answer any of the above statements in the affirmative and you’ll see how quickly the offender can begin the manipulation of the Probation situation. Answer any of the questions with murmurings of understanding sympathy and make your prediction about the PO/offender relationship 5 month (or five years) down the road. These are just some of the many traps that are very well known and very easily defused.

Working With The Offender

After you’ve taken a personal survey of your

own ability to work with perpetrators of all types of violence and after you’ve looked at your susceptibility to the traps outlined above, you can face the offender with renewed confidence. Current thinking on the ‘best practices’ strongly supports a Coordinated Community Response (CCR). As probation officers, our role in this type of a CCR is holding the offender accountable and joining in the development of a ‘common language’. Working with other agencies builds confidence and joint community planning consistently produces more effective results.

Excerpts from article by Carl Reddick and Don Chapin in APPA's Perspective Magazine.

Accessed: 10/2/2013 <http://www.appa-net.org/dv/docs/sp99appa18.pdf>

Communiqué – Effective Communications

Ten Tips For Community Corrections Professional to Enhance Crime Victim/Survivor Assistance

1. Know and collaborate with community – and system-based victim assistance professionals in your jurisdiction – they are “on the front line assisting victims of crime,” and are a valuable resource for you!
2. Be aware of victims’ statutory and constitutional rights in your state, especially those specific to community corrections (you can visit <https://www.victimlaw.org/> for quick access by types of law and/or jurisdiction.
3. Make sure that crime victims on your caseloads know how to contact you by telephone and email, and that you have their most current contact information for ongoing communications, as needed.
4. Be knowledgeable about the types of information victim need to know – about their rights, available services, and what community supervision entails.
5. Learn as much as you can about the impact of crime on victims – victim trauma in the aftermath of criminal victimization will affect how they react to involvement with justice processes, as well as their interactions with you.
6. Obtain information about the impact of the crime on the victim through victim impact statements at sentencing and parole, and pre-sentence and pre-parole investigative reports. It’s not only helpful in victim assistance; it can also contribute to more effective offender management in the community.
7. Determine the types of information that you *can* and *cannot* tell victims about their case and convicted offender, and be prepared to explain why some offender information is confidential.
8. Remember that *victim safety is paramount!* You can work with victim advocates to *assess* and *address* victims’ needs for safety and security, and help them with personal safety planning.
9. Treat victim restitution as a *right*, and not a “*recommendation*”! Restitution and other legal/financial obligations (such as child support) are critical to helping victims recover from the financial impact of the crime, and to holding offenders accountable for their actions.
10. Understand that while assisting victims takes time and sometimes proves to be stressful, it is one of the most important aspects of your work. Remember that “victims remember *TWO things*: those who *help*, and those who *hurt*.”

Source: American Probation and Parole Association

Agency Spotlight

SCCADVASA

South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault

SCCADVASA IS . . .

A statewide membership coalition formed in 1981 to address violence against women at the state level in South Carolina.

MISSION . . .

To end domestic violence and sexual assault in South Carolina by influencing public policy, advocating for social change, and building the capacity of member programs, allied organizations and communities across the state.

PURPOSE . . .

To support the work of member programs to ensure vital services for victims/survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.

To monitor and influence public policy and legislation on domestic violence and sexual assault issues.

To promote awareness and educate the citizens of the state about the social and personal costs of domestic violence and sexual assault.

To facilitate the development of partnerships and coordinate efforts between Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault programs, as well as public and private organizations.

GOALS:

To promote high quality services for survivors of domestic and sexual violence;

To promote effective systems response to survivors of domestic and sexual violence;

To provide a forum for the exchange of information and development of skills regarding the response to domestic and sexual violence; and

To coordinate and collaborate with statewide partners engaged in violence against women activities.

VSC Spotlight KaTura Stephens-Miley



We welcome Ms. KaTura Stephens-Miley as the newest victim services specialist for the Department. Recently she was selected as the Victim Services Specialist in the Beaufort County Office. KaTura is the oldest of three children born to Nathan and Ruby Stephens of Islandton, South Carolina. She attended Ruffin High School & Orangeburg Technical College. KaTura spends most of her time caring for her three children Naquan, Dallas & KJ. Prior to her employment with SCDPPPS, she was employed with the Colleton County Alcohol & Drug Abuse where she was 2003 Employee of the Year. Since joining SCDPPPS in 2008, KaTura has proven herself to be a dedicated and well-respected employee. In this newest capacity, KaTura will provide victim services support to the five counties within the 14th Judicial Circuit which includes Allendale, Beaufort, Colleton, Hampton, and Jasper counties. KaTura's motto is: Love thy neighbor as thyself. This motto will keep her focused as she establishes relationships with victims and victim service providers in the low country.

PPP's Victim Services Staff

Carol Woodard	Director
Missy Knight	Assistant Director
Sandra McCray	Victim Services Liaison
Betsy Hegler	Victim Services Coordinator

To increase the Department's commitment to provide comprehensive services to crime victims, the Department employs Victim Services Coordinators and Specialists (VSC/VSS) throughout the state. They are the contact staff for victims if they have questions about their cases.

Victim Services Coordinators/Specialists

Anthony White	Aiken County
Wanda Johnson	Anderson County
Katura Stephens	Beaufort County
Bernadette Brown	Charleston County
Susan Paitl	Charleston County
Susan Clemmons	Darlington County
Mamie Hannah	Florence County
Karen Patterson	Greenville County
Randy Worrell	Horry County
James (Tim) Williams	Lancaster County
Nicole Morreale	Lexington County
Debbie Arnold	Laurens County
Andrea Fogle	Orangeburg County
Jacqueline Smith	Richland County
Bert Sparks	Spartanburg County
Stacy McCray	Sumter County
John Barnett	York County



Through Their Eyes is a quarterly publication of the South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services Office of Victim Services

Any questions or comments should be directed to
 Director of Victim Services
 Carol Woodard
 at
 SCDPPPS
 Post Office Box 50666
 2221 Devine Street, Suite 300
 Columbia, South Carolina 29250
 Phone: 803-734-9367
 Toll Free: 888-551-4118
 E-mail: carol.woodard@ppp.sc.gov
 Website: www.dppps.sc.gov

Kela E. Thomas
Director

Carol R. Woodard
Editor

Arnise N. Moultrie
Newsletter Designer

The Silent Witness

The 16th Annual Silent Witness Ceremony was held on October 1, 2013 on the steps of the South Carolina State House. The bell tolled and 49 red or blue silhouettes were presented for the 39 female victims, 9 male victims, and one silhouette representative of unknown victims who died due to domestic violence in South Carolina in 2012. This annual Silent Witness Story was presented by the S.C. Office of the Attorney General, S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women Program. S.C. Attorney General Alan Wilson commented on this issue that continually plagues the citizens of South Carolina. He then read the names and stories of every victim. One powerful moment in the service came from the testimony of a survivor. She was a professional, career-minded educator who became involved in a relationship with a man who was well known, loved and respected by his community, but who was also a violent abuser. By the time she walked away from this relationship the only thing she had was her life and her children. She left behind relationships, career and even her dignity in order that she could find peace and live an abuse free life for herself and her children. This confirms the fact that domestic violence affects people of all socioeconomic backgrounds and education levels.

The mission of this memorial service and others like it throughout the United States is to "promote peace, healing and responsibility in adult relationships."



Family members and victim advocates hold cutouts that represent a person who died in 2012 as a result of domestic violence.

Proprietary Disclaimer

This document (including all data and statistical information represented herein) was compiled and reported by the South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services. Any reproduction or republication of said report, articles, data, or statistics is permitted only if reproduced in its entirety without modification, or omission, and must identify the South Carolina Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services as the source.