



The Maryland State Medical Society

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OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

BALTIMORE, October 13, 2015 — Domestic violence touches the lives of Americans of all ages, leaving a devastating impact on women, men, and children. In October, MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society observes Domestic Violence Awareness Month in hopes of helping victims through their pain and moving forward in the fight to stop violence before it begins.

In 1998, the Maryland Health Care Coalition Against Domestic Violence was formed with the mission of educating both health care professionals and the public about the health consequences of domestic violence. Operating entirely through grant funding, for nearly fifteen years, the Maryland Health Care Coalition Against Domestic Violence has been providing educational opportunities about family violence to Maryland's health care professionals. MedChi, along with the Center For a Healthy Maryland, has supported the Maryland Health Care Coalition Against Domestic Violence since its founding.

Every year the Maryland Health Care Coalition Against Domestic Violence holds a program on Intimate Partner Violence. This year's program is on Thursday, November 5 at 9:30 a.m. and will be held at the MedChi building, 1211 Cathedral Street, Baltimore 21201. Andrea C. Gielen, ScD, ScM, Professor and Director at the Center for Injury Research and Policy of Johns Hopkins will be this year's speaker. For more information please visit www.medchi.org.

Dr. Brooke Buckley, President of MedChi, states "victims of violence often suffer in silence, not knowing where to turn, with little or no guidance and support. Sadly, this does not just affect adults. Even when children are not directly injured by violence, exposure to violence in the home can contribute to behavioral, social, and emotional problems. This is why MedChi wants to bring attention to this important issue."

About MedChi

MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, is a non-profit membership association of Maryland physicians. It is the largest physician organization in Maryland. The mission of MedChi is to serve as Maryland's foremost advocate and resource for physicians, their patients and the public health of Maryland. For more information, please visit www.medchi.org.