



The Maryland State Medical Society

News: For Immediate Release

Additional Information Contact:

Gene M. Ransom, CEO

Office: 410-539-0872 x 3305

OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

BALTIMORE, October 8, 2018 — The Maryland Health Care Coalition Against Domestic Violence was formed in 1998 to provide leadership within the health care community to promote a proactive and effective response to intimate partner violence through screening, identification, education, intervention and treatment of patients who have been victimized. The Coalition created a series of educational brochures for health care providers focused on responding to patients, as well as brochures to provide directly to patients. Along with educational materials, Coalition members provide training around the state in various health care facilities, seminars on domestic violence-related topics, and technical assistance to health care providers looking to improve their policies and practices.

Since the Coalition's inception, the number of hospital-based domestic violence programs in the state has increased from three to ten, all of which are involved with the Coalition. Over the past year, the Coalition conducted 24 trainings reaching 558 participants, updated its brochures and created new *Professional Guidance Sheets* on many topics as they relate to intimate partner violence, including substance abuse, pregnancy, traumatic brain injury, strangulation and more.

Please join the Maryland Health Care Coalition Against Domestic Violence as it celebrates its 20th Anniversary and Domestic Violence Awareness Month with a viewing of "Private Violence" on October 11th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at MedChi, The Maryland State Medical Society, 1221 Cathedral Street, Baltimore. Refreshments will be served and donations will be accepted to benefit the Coalition. All are welcome: please RSVP to center@medchi.org.

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.

About the Center

The Center for a Healthy Maryland is the 501 (c) (3) affiliate of MedChi. It was established in 1976 to support the charitable, educational and scientific purposes and functions of MedChi. These include education, quality improvement, health promotion, community outreach, preservation of MedChi history, and public health. For more information, please visit www.healthymaryland.org.