



News: For Immediate Release
Additional Information Contact:
Gene M. Ransom, CEO
Office: 410-539-0872 x 3305

OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Join Us in the Fight Against Abuse

BALTIMORE, October 10, 2024 – As we observe Domestic Violence Awareness Month this October, the Maryland Health Care Coalition Against Domestic Violence, a part of the Center for a Healthy Maryland, an affiliate of MedChi, emphasizes the urgent need for community engagement in addressing the critical issue of domestic violence.

Seminal research highlights a troubling statistic: fewer than 4% of domestic violence victims who were murdered by their abusive partners had sought support from a domestic violence program prior to their tragic deaths. In contrast, nearly half of these victims had visited a medical provider, underscoring the vital role healthcare professionals play in identifying and addressing intimate partner violence.

The impact of domestic violence extends far beyond immediate physical harm, often leading to a multitude of health issues. It is essential to equip health care providers with the necessary tools and training to recognize the signs of abuse and offer lifesaving support to victims.

Throughout October, we invite you to take action in support of this crucial cause. Here are several ways you can make a difference:

- **Spread Awareness:** Share information about domestic violence and its signs within your community.
- **Educate Yourself:** Learn more about the resources available for victims and the role of healthcare providers in addressing domestic violence.
- **Support the Cause:** Consider donating to programs that assist victims and provide education to healthcare professionals.

Together, we can break the cycle of violence and begin the process of healing our communities. Your involvement is essential in creating a safer environment for all. For more information on how to get involved, please visit our [Domestic Violence Awareness Campaign](#). Just \$25 allows us to provide 25 brochures for patients in health care settings.

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 For a Healthy Maryland

The Center's mission is to advance the practice of medicine, enhance the quality of medical care, promote the health of the citizens of the State of Maryland, explore the history of medicine in Maryland, and preserve MedChi's archives. The Center's programs include supporting the study of medicine and the diffusion of medical knowledge through the continuing medical education of physicians; providing programs to maintain the wellness of practicing physicians serving the public; preserving and learning from the past history of medical care in Maryland; educating the public about medical issues and promoting public health programs.