



**News: For Immediate Release**  
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## **OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

BALTIMORE, October 27, 2017 — 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.

Dr. Gary Pushkin, President of MedChi, states "MedChi wants to bring attention to this important issue. Many times victims of violence suffer in silence because they do not know where to turn. Sadly, this does not just affect adults, but children too. Even if children are not directly injured by violence, exposure to violence in the home can contribute to behavioral, social, and emotional problems."

### 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](http://www.medchi.org).