

W. 5. b.

AGENDA COVER MEMO

AGENDA DATE: October 1, 2003

TO: Board of County Commissioners

DEPARTMENT: Children & Families

PRESENTED BY: Alicia Hays



AGENDA TITLE: IN THE MATTER OF PROCLAIMING
OCTOBER 2003 AS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

I. MOTION

IN THE MATTER OF PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 2003 AS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
AWARENESS MONTH

II. ISSUE OR PROBLEM

Domestic Violence organizations and their supporters across the nation recognize October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM). The intent of DVAM activities is to raise awareness of domestic violence and the importance of a coordinated response. Such a response requires involvement by local government, domestic violence service providers, the criminal and civil justice systems, batterer intervention providers, social service providers, and community members.

III. DISCUSSION

A. Background/Analysis

Domestic violence affects families throughout Lane County, cutting across all age, ethnic, and socioeconomic groups. In a random phone survey of Lane County residents conducted in 2001, 29% of respondents indicated they had been victims of domestic violence at some point in their lives –of those, 13% had been victims of domestic violence within the past year. As reported in the 1998 Oregon Domestic Violence Needs Assessment: A Report to the Governor's Council on Domestic Violence, 25% of Oregon's children are living in households where there is domestic violence; the majority of these children witness the violence.

A promising approach to reducing the rate of domestic violence is a coordinated community response. Our local coordinated response began in 1993, with the founding of the Domestic Violence Council. Participants represent key Lane County organizations that work with domestic violence

survivors, their children, and perpetrators of the violence. The Council has taken the lead in raising community awareness through a variety of collaborative training, educational, and media projects. These include the development of a uniform law enforcement reporting form, pre-trial monitoring of domestic violence offenders, the development and use of domestic violence screening protocols by health care providers, and enhanced collaboration among agencies that monitor domestic violence offenders.

The community is invited to attend DVAM events on October 1st and 2nd. Wednesday will feature a special presentation of the Silent Witness Exhibit; Thursday's events focus on "What YOU Can Do".

B. Alternatives/Options

1. To declare October 2003 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Lane County.
2. Not to declare October 2003 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

C. Recommendation

Option 1, to declare October 2003 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Lane County.

D. Timing

Upon Board approval, October 2003 will be declared Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Lane County.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION

Implementation will be completed as stated above in "Timing."

V. ATTACHMENTS

Board Order
DVAM flyer

RESOLVED AND ORDERED, that the Lane County Board of County Commissioners hereby proclaim the month of October 2003 as **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**, and urges all lane County citizens to work together to reduce domestic violence through education, by participating in DVAM activities, and by encouraging supportive responses to survivors of domestic violence within their workplaces, neighborhoods, and organizations.

APPROVED this 1st day of October, 2003.

Peter Sorenson, Chair
BOARD OF LANE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

APPROVED AS TO FORM
Date 9/22/03 lane county
J. Laidlaw
OFFICE OF LEGAL COUNSEL

IN THE MATTER OF PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 2003 AS DOMESTIC
VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Wednesday, October 1st

Silent Witness Exhibit

4:30-5:30 pm

Presentation, candlelighting, reception

- Remember women and children who have died at the hands of batterers,
- Honor the courage of those who have left violent relationships, and
- Carry a message of hope and support for those who are still living with domestic violence.

Thursday, October 2nd

Domestic Violence – What You Can Do!

5:30-7:30 pm

What can you do if your friend, co-worker or family member discloses abuse? Come and gather tools that you can use.

Refreshments will be provided!

Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault Providers Fair

7:30-8:30 pm

Talk to local providers about services and options if you or someone you know needs help.

All Events Are Held At The First United Methodist Church, 1376 Olive Street – Behind the Old Public Library.

Sponsored by
The First United Methodist Church
The Lane County Domestic Violence Council
The Eugene Human Rights Commission
Womenspace

Call 485-8232 for more information or to register;
registration is not required
Everyone is welcome!

