

## CELEBRATE OCTOBER 2010 AS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Dear Colleagues,

As many of you all know, October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, which is a time to honor victims and raise awareness about the devastating impact of domestic violence. All across this country concerned citizens, service providers, and domestic violence survivors stand together to inform citizens about what they can do to end violence, to mourn those who have lost their lives, and to celebrate the advancement of community responses.

The Family Violence Prevention and Services Program in the Family and Youth Services Bureau strives to bring visibility to the work of advocates, the strength of victims, and the Federal initiatives addressing this pervasive issue every day. We are inviting you all to participate in several Federal awareness events taking place this month such as our sponsored discussion with the Institute on Domestic Violence in the African American Community on October 18<sup>th</sup> or our Economic Empowerment Conference Call on October 28<sup>th</sup>. Please see the attached flyer for additional details about those events.

Domestic violence touches the lives of Americans of all ages, leaving a devastating impact on women, men, and children of every background and circumstance. The work of many Federal agencies can be so instrumental in creating support, expanding resources, and eliminating barriers for victims of domestic violence. Please use this month as an opportunity to build your knowledge, strengthen partnerships, and reflect on ways your agency can include a focus on domestic violence. We hope that the awareness events taking place this month will help serve as opportunities for inspiration.

Together, we have built strong programs focused on coordinated community responses from state to state, and this month I want to thank you for your work and ask you to continue to think of opportunities to collaborate. Our program is always seeking to explore partnerships with other federal programs to focus on domestic violence within their existing programming. We will work with you and support your leadership!

Sincerely,



Marylouise Kelley  
Director  
Family Violence Prevention and Services Program

Family Violence Prevention & Services Program  
Family and Youth Services Bureau  
Administration for Children and Families  
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services  
1250 Maryland Ave., SW 8th Floor  
Washington, DC 20024