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Be a life-saving bridge to safety for survivors

Domestic Violence Awareness Month launches with call to action for community

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., (9/30/2025)- Ahead of the start of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Northeast Florida leaders are making a unified call to the community: you can be a life-saving support for a survivor.

Hubbard House has launched a social media campaign, #BridgeToSafety, to underscore how anyone and everyone can be a bridge to help connect someone experiencing domestic violence to safety. Campaign posts throughout the month of October will feature tips and information for how to act safely to let survivors know you're ready to help. The campaign also emphasizes the impact of that support for anyone living in abuse.

"To survivors, we know the bridge to safety can feel steep and long, but we are here to walk with you every step of the way. Hubbard House is here for you," says Hubbard House CEO Dr. Gail Patin.

This campaign comes alongside the release of the 2024 Duval County Domestic Violence Fatality Review Report, which notes that in five of the 11 cases of intimate partner violence homicides in Duval County in 2024, friends, family, neighbors, or others who knew the victim/suspect were aware of violence in the relationship, but did not provide any significant source of help for the victim. This includes situations where the violence was severe.

"The Jacksonville Sheriff's Office stands ready, willing, and able to serve as a bridge to survivors' safety. We all can be advocates and allies. If you have any information that a person's life or safety is in danger due to intimate violence, please call our emergency number. Together, we can help a survivor journey from danger to safety," says Jacksonville Sheriff T.K. Waters.

In 2024 in Duval County, there were 14 cases of domestic violence-related homicides, including 11 specifically involving intimate partners. The homicides resulted in 19 deaths, including three perpetrators who died as the result of a homicide-suicide.

The Report shows several risk factors present among the homicide cases, including prior domestic violence, cohabitation, and the presence of firearms.

“Domestic violence remains a scourge on households and families in every corner Jacksonville. This Office, along with our greater community, remains committed to pursuing justice for victims and do our part to help their families and loved ones bridge the gap between tragedy and closure,” says 4th Circuit State Attorney’s Office Special Victims Unit Director Khary O. Gaynor.

The Clerk of Courts, City of Jacksonville, and other regional domestic violence centers and law enforcement joined in releasing this Report and marking the beginning of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. DVAM offers the community many opportunities to learn more about domestic violence, Hubbard House resources, and how to support local survivors.

Opportunities during Domestic Violence Awareness Month:

- Attend Hubbard House’s Barbara Ann Campbell Memorial Breakfast on October 15th. More information about this event can be found at <https://www.hubbardhouse.org/event/31st-barbara-ann-campbell-memorial-breakfast/>.
- Share Hubbard House’s #BridgeToSafety social media campaign on Facebook (@HubbardHouseInc), Instagram (@hubbard_house), and LinkedIn (Company/HubbardHouse).
- Spend time in personal reflection outside of the Duval County Courthouse, where 6,214 purple flags will be planted beginning at 3 PM on October 1st and will remain through October. The flags represent each injunction for protection filed in Duval County in 2024.
- Host a donation drive to help stock the Hubbard House pantry and support the 120 survivors and children in emergency shelter each day. Learn more at www.hubbardhouse.org/in-kind-donations/
- Invite a representative from Hubbard House to your business, social club, or other groups to provide information about domestic violence and resources. Learn more at www.hubbardhouse.org/host-a-speaker/.
- Enhance your personal understanding of domestic violence and Hubbard House resources through the information available at www.hubbardhouse.org, including pages dedicated to how to safely support victims.

Survivors of domestic violence can access help through the 24/7 Hubbard House Hotline at (904) 354-3114 or Textline at (904) 210-3698. Survivors can also make an appointment or walk into the Hubbard House Outreach Center at 6629 Beach Blvd, Monday-Friday from 10AM-2PM. All Hubbard House services are free and confidential.

View the full Domestic Violence Fatality Review Report: www.hubbardhouse.org/press

About Hubbard House:

Hubbard House is the certified domestic violence center serving Duval and Baker counties in Northeast Florida. Hubbard House offers free, confidential shelter and services, including counseling, employment support, housing help, and related areas for survivors of domestic violence and their children. Speak with a trained advocate any time through Hubbard House’s 24/7 Hotline at (904) 354-3114 or Textline at (904) 210-3698