

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Transitions Family Violence Services**  
**P.O. Box 561**  
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*[www.transitionsfvs.org](http://www.transitionsfvs.org)*

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**A time for communities to come together to remember those lost...**

1 in 4 women experience domestic violence - how many women do YOU know?

**Hampton, VA - September 27, 2006** October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Hampton Roads and across the country. First celebrated nationally in 1987, Domestic Violence Awareness Month is a time for all communities to come together to remember those lost, celebrate the survivors, and connect with the public to end domestic violence.

Many communities in Virginia are planning local awareness events - such as vigils, fundraisers, clothesline projects, and open houses - to recognize Domestic Violence Awareness Month. To find out what has been planned in your area, please contact [Transitions Family Violence Services](http://www.transitionsfvs.org) or visit [www.transitionsfvs.org](http://www.transitionsfvs.org) for a continuously updated calendar of events.

In addition to reporting on awareness events, you may wish to consider some of the following approaches to reporting on the problem of domestic violence:

- **Domestic violence homicide** - 47 women and 16 men were killed by their intimate partners in VA in the year 2002.
- **Domestic violence and guns** - A firearm was used in 62% of the 63 homicides mentioned above.
- **Child witnesses of domestic violence** - More than half of children who received help from a VA domestic violence program in 2002 had witnessed an act of violence.
- **How to help a friend or family member who is being abused** - 3 out of 4 victims who sought help from a VA domestic violence program in 2002 reported seeking help from family or friends first.
- **Funding needs** of Domestic Violence Programs and recent funding cuts.

- **Attitudes about domestic violence** - A recent national survey found that while virtually all Americans are concerned about domestic violence, many hold serious misconceptions about the prevalence and dynamics of relationship abuse.

I would be happy to provide you with additional information on any of these topics or any others that interest you. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (757) 728-0025 or via email at [jcampbell@transitionsfvs.org](mailto:jcampbell@transitionsfvs.org)

Your assistance in sharing information with your constituents about this deadly problem is greatly appreciated.

[Learn more...](#)

### **About Transitions Family Violence Services**

Transitions Family Violence Services is the sole provider of comprehensive family violence services in Hampton, Newport News and Poquoson, and a co-provider of services for York County.

Transitions Family Violence Services is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization formed in 1977. It is funded by the United Way of the Virginia Peninsula, grants from many sources and community contributions. Clients receive all services at no charge, although transitional housing clients pay rent according to their income.

The mission of Transitions Family Violence Services is to build safe and healthy families on the Virginia Peninsula. The agency assists adult and child victims through the provision of shelter, counseling and advocacy services. We work to increase awareness of domestic violence and provide opportunities for community members to participate in our mission.