



End Violent Encounters

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date 01-31-2012

Contact: Community Relations Coordinator
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February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Month

Ingham County, MI – The month of February is dedicated to teen dating violence awareness and prevention. Every year, nearly one in four teens reports that he or she is the victim of verbal, physical, emotional, or sexual violence. Abusive relationships can negatively affect teenage development, and teens who experience dating violence may endure lasting negative behavioral and health consequences. Teens in controlling or violent relationships may carry these dangerous and unhealthy patterns into future relationships. It is time to break the cycle of teen dating violence, before future generation fall prey to this tragedy.

Countless communities face the dilemma of teen dating violence. However some teens may be afraid to talk about the issue, or they may not recognize the seriousness of emotional, physical, or sexual abuse. Parents and other adults may not be aware that abuse is occurring or they may also feel uncomfortable acknowledging that teens experience abuse. Teen dating violence is often concealed because teenagers usually are inexperienced with dating relationships, are pressured by peers to act violently, want independence from parents, or the teen may have a distorted perception of love.

In 2010, the State of Michigan, along with Congress dedicated the entire month of February to teen dating violence and prevention. A proclamation signed by Governor Jennifer Granholm, recognized February as Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month and encouraged all parents to break the silence and talk to their children about dating abuse.

Dating abuse is a real problem for teens. Along with all of the things that make dating abuse difficult for adults, there are other challenges that teens in an abusive situation face. These challenges include not having money, transportation, or a safe place to go, causing him or her to stay in the abusive relationship.

EVE (End Violent Encounters) provides free and confidential services to victims of dating and domestic violence in Ingham and surrounding counties. EVE also offers a Dating Violence Prevention Education Program in an effort to educate youth about the physical, emotional, and sexual abuse that can occur in dating relationships. For more information about EVE, the services we provide, and the Dating Violence Prevention Program please visit us online at www.eveinc.org or call 517-372-5976 ext. 11.

P.O. Box 14149 • Lansing, MI 48901 • www.eveinc.org
Crisis Line (517) 372-5572 • Business Line (517) 372-5976 • Fax (517) 702-9908



Founded in 1977, End Violent Encounters EVE (originally known as the Council Against Domestic Assault, or CADA) was Lansing's first domestic violence program, providing a safe shelter for women and children experiencing domestic violence.

Today, EVE's services have grown to provide support programs to EVE's house resident's and non-resident's, including 24 Hour Crisis Support (517) 372-5572, shelter, advocacy, counseling, crisis intervention, personal protection order assistance, children's programs, dating violence prevention and community education.

EVE's services are client centered, confidential, free of charge and designed to empower survivors. Our programs use a nonjudgmental, supportive and strengths-based approach. Survivors of all racial, ethnic and religious backgrounds, gender identities and sexual orientations are welcome.

All staff and volunteers are trained to meet the special needs of survivors and their children. Counseling services are provided by masters and doctoral levels staff and interns in the social work, psychology and counseling fields. All interns are supervised by experienced staff on-site as well as faculty from area universities.

EVE's services are dependent upon the generous help of volunteers, donations and the support of area businesses and organizations. For information about supporting EVE or to become a volunteer, call EVE's Business Line at (517) 372-5976 or visit our website www.eveinc.org

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