


COMMUNITY ACTION

Ottley: Turn area purple, raise domestic violence awareness

The Purple Tie Event

Friday September 27
5:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Springside Inn, Auburn

Music By
Diana Jacobs & Midnite Mood

Food, Cash Bar
Signature Cocktails

Live Auction & Raffles

CASUAL ATTIRE.
PURPLE ENCOURAGED!

\$20 Tickets

100% of proceeds to benefit Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency, Inc. Domestic Violence Services Department.
Purchase tickets online at www.cscaa.com or call 315-255-1703.

SEPTEMBER 22, 2013 3:00 AM • [TRISH OTTLEY](#) | [SPECIAL TO THE CITIZEN](#)

The Domestic Violence Services Department of Cayuga/Seneca Community Action Agency Inc. has been gearing up for October, which is recognized nationally as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Purple is the symbolic color for domestic violence awareness and this month CSCAA's Domestic Violence Intervention Program is joining the New York State Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence and communities across the state in a campaign to "Shine the Light on Domestic Violence" by turning New York state purple.

The campaign encourages public, private and nonprofit entities to raise awareness of the issue by embracing the color purple by shining purple lights on building or other structures in their communities. Over the next month as you travel down Genesee Street in Auburn, you will notice a purple stripe down the street and purple lights illuminating the lamp posts. Additionally the

City Bell Tower will shine purple throughout the entire month of October.

There are many awareness activities planned for the month of October, all starting with a fundraiser to kick off Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The first annual Purple Tie Event will be held from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Sept. 27 at the Springside Inn. All proceeds raised from this event will benefit the Domestic Violence Services Department.

At 8 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 29, staff and volunteers will gather in front of the Cayuga County Office Building and place purple tape down the middle of Genesee Street to John Street. Last year we were recognized as the only county in the State who did this type of awareness activity to commemorate Domestic Violence Awareness Month and we are excited to extend the length of the stripe and continue this tradition. On Oct. 16 we will also host the four annual Wear Purple Day Event that will be held on the steps of the Cayuga County Courthouse at noon. Attendees are encouraged to wear purple, gather to

hear brief remarks about the impact of domestic violence in our community, and participate in a balloon release.

We must work as a community to shine the light on domestic violence and raise awareness of this issue. Victims should never feel ashamed to seek help and we as a community should support the victims and let them know they are not alone. This October, let's join together to support the many victims of domestic violence in our community. By shining a light on domestic violence, we can show our support as a community for those who are living in danger and fear. There are a number of ways you can participate in Domestic Violence Awareness Month including attending The Purple Tie Fundraiser on Sept. 27, wearing purple and attending our Wear Purple Event on Oct. 16, wearing purple ribbons throughout the month, and encouraging your co-workers, friends, family and fellow students to recognize the significance of the month and to support victims of domestic violence.

Health care facilities and schools in the county are also encouraged to get involved by wearing purple, decorating windows, and showing support for victims of domestic violence throughout the month.

CSCAA's DVIP is the county's residential and non-residential provider of domestic violence services. The Domestic Violence Services Department provides a variety of emergency and supportive services to assist victims of domestic violence through the process of leaving abusive relationships and building safe, self-sufficient futures. DVIP provides victims of domestic violence with safety planning, individual supportive counseling, temporary safe shelter, advocacy, and support group. In program year 2012, DVIP provided 1,535 bed nights of emergency shelter to victims of domestic violence, responded to 349 hotline calls and provided non-residential services to 146 victims of domestic violence.

This October, let's join together to support the many victims of domestic violence in our community. By shining a light on domestic violence, we can illuminate the path to safety and support for those who are living in danger and fear. If you are concerned about your safety, or are worried about a friend or family member, DVIP offers a confidential 24-hour hotline you can call anytime to receive information, emotional support, and emergency help: 1-800-253-3358.

If you are interested in getting involved in Domestic Violence Awareness Month activities please contact Sarah Barnard, Domestic Violence services director, at 255-1703 ext. 124 or sbarnard@cscaa.com.