



Stop the violence. Start the healing.

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757-631-0710-office
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samaritanhouseva.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ARE TO BE REMEMBERED AT TWO
CANDLELIGHT VIGILS ON “NATIONAL DAY OF UNITY NIGHT OF
REMEMBRANCE” ON OCTOBER 2.**

HAMPTON ROADS, VA – Coastal Virginia’s agencies and non-profits working to prevent domestic violence and support survivors are coming together to host two simultaneous candlelight vigils on Monday, October 2 on the Peninsula in Hampton and on the Southside at downtown Norfolk Slover Library to commemorate the 42nd Annual “National Day of Unity Night of Remembrance,” founded by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence. The vigil is held each year on the first Monday in October, marking the beginning of Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

“Domestic violence is dangerous for everyone, but there are incredibly dedicated people in our community who can help. We hope someone who needs us will find us and reach out for support,” said Larissa Sutherland, Victim Advocate.

The community is invited to come together to memorialize those lost to domestic violence; to support families, friends, and survivors; to raise awareness of shelters and other resources; and to actively work toward safer relationships and communities.

Southside Candlelight Vigil

Slover Library Lobby
235 Plume Street
Norfolk, VA 23510
6:30 – 8 p.m.

Peninsula Candlelight Vigil

Town Square at Peninsula Town Center
1620 Merchant Lane
Hampton, VA 23666
6 – 7:30 p.m.

The vigils are being organized by Samaritan House, YWCA of South Hampton Roads, Help and Emergency Response, Inc., The Genieve Shelter, Transitions Family Violence Services along with support from Military Family Advocacy Programs and multi-city Victim-Witness programs.

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ABOUT SAMARITAN HOUSE: Since 1984, Samaritan House has sought to foster personal safety, growth and self-sufficiency in adults and their children through freedom from sexual and domestic violence, human trafficking and homelessness in Hampton Roads by providing emergency and permanent housing, support services and community outreach to victims. For additional information, visit: www.samaritanhouseva.org

ABOUT YWCA SOUTH HAMPTON ROADS: YWCA is the oldest and largest multicultural women's organization in the world. Since 1908, YWCA South Hampton Roads has strengthened social movements that eliminate racism, empower women, and promote peace, justice, and dignity for all. For nearly forty years, YWCA South Hampton Roads has run its emergency shelter, providing the only place of refuge for families escaping domestic and sexual violence in the City of Norfolk. For more information, visit: <https://www.ywca-shr.org>

ABOUT H.E.R. SHELTER: Help and Emergency Response, Inc. provides leadership, advocacy, and resources to survivors and communities affected by Domestic Violence, Sexual Violence, Stalking, and Human Trafficking. The work of Help and Emergency Response, Inc. will create a safe and prosperous future for all through awareness, services, and training for lasting change in the communities we serve. For more information, visit: <http://hershelter.com/>

ABOUT TRANSITIONS FAMILY VIOLENCE SERVICES: Transitions Family Violence Services is a nonprofit organization dedicated to eliminating domestic violence in Hampton, Newport News, Poquoson and York County. We are the sole provider of comprehensive services to adult and child victims of domestic violence. Since 1977, we have been a pathway to safety and a source of hope for thousands of individuals and families. For more information, visit: <https://www.transitionsfvs.org/>

ABOUT THE FAMILY ADVOCACY PROGRAM: The Family Advocacy Program, or FAP, is the Department of Defense program designated to address domestic abuse, child abuse and neglect, and problematic sexual behavior in children and youth. FAP is delivered through the military services who work in coordination with key military components and civilian agencies to prevent abuse, encourage early identification and prompt reporting, promote victim safety and empowerment and provide appropriate treatment for affected service members and their families.

ABOUT THE GENIEVE SHELTER: The Genieve Shelter strives to provide a safe refuge and supportive environment for the victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking; provide information, education, and training services that focus on ending the cycle of violence. For more information, visit: <http://www.thegenieveshelter.org>.