



GENERAL FEDERATION  
of WOMEN'S CLUBS

# GFWC SIGNATURE PROGRAM NEWSLETTER

## CAMPUS SEXUAL ASSAULT

BY TRISHA SCHAFFER  
SIGNATURE PROGRAM CHAIRMAN  
GREAT LAKES REGION REPRESENTATIVE

How can we prevent sexual violence on campus?

Providing bystander skills training for students, faculty, staff, and administrators is an important part of any comprehensive prevention plan. Campuses could also implement media campaigns that model appropriate student behavior and conduct, like bystander skills and consent. Some colleges are now using “bystander intervention” training as a sexual assault prevention method. One of the benefits of bystander intervention programs is that they treat other students as allies who are empowered to help other students — especially freshman students. There is a documentary called “The Hunting Ground”, found on Netflix, which focuses on sexual assault that occurs on college campuses throughout the US and how not much is done to address the issue.

Project idea: Have a speaker from your local Sexual Violence Agency talk with your club about what they are doing at the local colleges and what your club can do to help.

Here are some links for more info:

<https://www.rainn.org/articles/staying-safe-campus>

<https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/pdf/campusvprevention.pdf>

## UPCOMING AWARENESS DATES

### FEBRUARY

TEEN DATING VIOLENCE  
AWARENESS MONTH (ORANGE)

### MARCH

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH  
10TH ANNIVERSARY OF NATIONAL  
“NO MORE” WEEK, MARCH 5-11

### APRIL

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION &  
AWARENESS MONTH (BLUE)  
SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS  
MONTH (TEAL)

### MAY

5TH - MISSING & MURDERED  
INDIGENOUS PERSONS AWARENESS  
DAY (RED HAND OVER MOUTH)

### JUNE

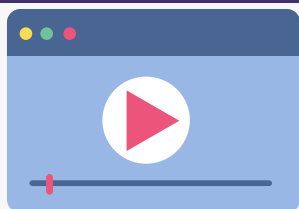
LGBTQ+ PRIDE MONTH  
ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH  
15TH - WORLD ELDER ABUSE  
AWARENESS DAY

Looking for an impactful project idea? Your club could talk with restaurant/bar managers or owners to see if their bartenders know about Angel Shots. Take a copy of this laminated graphic for them to keep behind the bar and place copies in the restroom stalls.

## ANGEL SHOTS

FAMOUS VARIATIONS AND TYPES OF

- “STRAIGHT UP”**  
or  
**“NEAT”**  
This indicates that the guest needs someone to escort them outside or to their car
- “ON ICE”**  
or  
**“ON THE ROCKS”**  
The bartender or staff member should call a taxi or ride service to take the patron home safely
- “WITH A LIME”**  
or  
**“WITH A TWIST”**  
If a patron orders these variations, the bars' staff should call the police



## WHAT TO WATCH

Videos and documentaries can be powerful tools to educate people about domestic and sexual violence and human trafficking. Here are some suggestions for you and for sharing with others.

Human trafficking is real. It's happening.

<https://youtube.com/shorts/lf2qmJEZj6o?si=TZOkMhT5EroKoO7f>

Netflix: American Nightmare docuseries

<https://time.com/6556061/american-nightmare-netflix-true-story/>

HBO documentary Great Photo, Lovely Life

<https://www.rollingstone.com/tv-movies/tv-movie-reviews/great-photo-lovely-life-hbo-doc-pedophile-amanda-mustard-bill-flickinger-1234910540/>

Netflix documentary: I Am A Stalker

<https://www.netflix.com/title/81087537>



# CHILDREN & DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

BY FLORENCE DEIDE

WESTERN STATES REGION REPRESENTATIVE

“Domestic abuse, also called "domestic violence" or "intimate partner violence," can be defined as a pattern of behavior in any relationship that is used to gain or maintain power and control over an intimate partner. Abuse is physical, sexual, emotional, economic, or psychological actions or threats of actions that influence another person. This includes any behaviors that frightens, intimidates, terrorizes, manipulates, hurts, humiliates, blames, injures, or wounds someone. Domestic abuse can happen to anyone of any race, age, sexual orientation, religion, or gender. It can occur within a range of relationships including couples who are married, living together or dating. Domestic violence affects people of all socioeconomic backgrounds and education levels.” CASA employee



What effect is the above DV description having on children of any age in the household? Most of these children have no way to escape what is happening around them. Maybe DV does not happen in my area. Well, YES, it is happening everywhere but likely we don't all know about it.

What can we do as club members of GFWC?

Clubs can lend support to shelters by providing books, games, treats and perhaps even food for these families. A family moving to a safe apartment, most likely, left all their household belonging behind. Know a member who is moving, bet she has some items to donate.

What can my club of just a few members do?

Check it out, you will be surprised just how much help can be given with minimal efforts. Check out your area to see what programs are being provided. These mothers and children in shelters or even still in their own homes may benefit from our support..

Can we help incarcerated parents?

Yes, they likely are having visits with their children at the facility. Perhaps, we could spruce up the library, provide a few games and even some sports equipment. Balls and books are always fun for every age.

Here is an idea from a Salt Lake group of innovative workers looking to help men convicted of DV. The mother and family remain in the home and the father is placed in a facility/shelter. These men accepted in this program must receive counseling, get a job, be sober and abide by the restrictions of their sentences. They are also required to provide family support financially. Initially, they do not have physical contact with the family they abused. The goal is not always to put the family back together but to help them achieve a healthy life for both the family and the abuser.

Fellow members, let's begin today to find ways to help, support and show we care!



# FINANCIAL ABUSE

BY JEAN REVIS

MIDDLE ATLANTIC REGION REPRESENTATIVE

An October 2022 article from Forbes Advisor highlights that domestic abuse encompasses more than physical harm; it often entails financial control and economic exploitation. During the Covid-19 pandemic, reported domestic violence cases in the U.S. rose by 8%, exacerbated by economic instability and enforced proximity to abusers.

The article outlines four common forms of financial abuse:



- 1. Financial Control:** This involves one partner taking sole control of finances, leaving the other without access to funds or knowledge of financial decisions.
- 2. Employment Sabotage:** Abusers may prevent victims from working or sabotage their employment, leaving them financially dependent and vulnerable.
- 3. Economic Exploitation:** Abusers may ruin victims' financial resources or credit history, leading to long-term financial repercussions.
- 4. Coerced Debt:** Victims may be coerced into taking on debt, leaving them financially burdened and trapped.

The article advises victims to create a safety plan before leaving an abusive situation, including finding safe shelter and gathering essential documents. It also emphasizes the importance of financial literacy in rebuilding one's life post-abuse, with resources available such as the [Allstate Foundation Moving Ahead Curriculum](#) and [Freefrom.org](#).

Furthermore, victims are encouraged to review and freeze their credit reports to prevent further financial harm. All three main consumer credit bureaus offer free weekly access to credit reports, which can be requested through [AnnualCreditReport.com](#).

In summary, while escaping an abusive situation is challenging, there are resources and strategies available to help victims regain control of their finances and rebuild their lives.

Read the full article here: <https://www.forbes.com/advisor/personal-finance/signs-of-financial-abuse-domestic-violence-awareness/>

