



## 2021 Virtual Silent Witness Ceremony, Family Violence Awareness Month Proclamation Signing, and Presentation of Legislative Resolution

To include announcements & events in our newsletter, email us at [info@guamcoalition.org](mailto:info@guamcoalition.org)



October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and locally, we recognize October as Family Violence Awareness Month (FVAM). Family Violence Awareness Month is an opportunity to shed light on the issue of domestic violence, raise awareness about available resources, honor the memory of those whose lives had been lost to family violence, and celebrate the resilience and strength of survivors. To support and help victims and survivors, we need to recognize that it is an issue that occurs globally and locally. Additionally, we need to talk openly about the issue of domestic violence and

facilitate informed conversations. By understanding what domestic violence is and that it is more than just physical abuse, we can better understand how to support survivors.

The Guam Police Department's Domestic Assault Response Team reported that in 2020, there had been 1,030 victims of domestic violence. However, nationally 44% of domestic violence cases go unreported (Reaves, 2017). Physical abuse is more commonly an indication of domestic violence, as 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men experience severe physical violence; however, nationally, nearly half of all men and women experience emotional/psychological abuse from an intimate partner (National Domestic Violence Hotline). As a community, we have a role in changing the script about what domestic violence is, to whom it happens, how we can support those who are victims/survivors, and ultimately, raise awareness.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Upcoming Events...

GCASAFV's General Membership Meeting  
Date: November 09, 2021  
Time: 11:00 AM

Email us for the Zoom link.  
[info@guamcoalition.org](mailto:info@guamcoalition.org)

Stay tuned for more updates and information on our plans for the month.

Visit <https://www.GuamCoalition.org/calendar> for more details.



FVAM was launched on Friday, October 1, 2021 with the Second Virtual Silent Witness Ceremony spearheaded by the St. Anthony Catholic Church and the Family Violence Awareness Month Proclamation Signing and Presentation of the Legislative Resolution. This year, over 100 attendees joined our community partners and members to honor and recognize the 28 victims lost to domestic/family violence.

Since 1997, the Silent Witness Ceremony remembers and honors the names and stories of Guam's victims of domestic violence. The Silent Witness Initiative began spreading awareness and educating the public in 1990 to support an end to domestic violence through community-based exhibits. Silent Witness International aims to end domestic violence while honoring and remembering the victims' names and their individual stories. To learn more, visit <http://www.silentwitness.net/>.

Visit our website at [www.GuamCoalition.org](http://www.GuamCoalition.org) to find out more information on upcoming FVAM events!

## Domestic Violence & Financial Abuse

October is Domestic/Family Violence Awareness Month, and the world continues to experience the devastating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. Domestic violence is not only inclusive of physical abuse but other forms of abuse, including financial abuse. The COVID-19 pandemic has affected individuals tremendously, especially victims/survivors of domestic and sexual violence resulting in economic instability and housing insecurity. These factors only increase their struggle to find a safe place to live and put food on the table. Through The Allstate Foundation Moving Ahead Curriculum, survivors may achieve financial independence and reclaim their lives.

The Allstate Foundation Moving Ahead Curriculum defines financial abuse as a tactic used by abusers to control victims by preventing access to money or other financial resources. Abuse can occur through emotional and physical abuse, manipulation, intimidation, and threats. However, victims may not as readily realize that they may be in a financially abusive relationship.

### **The Allstate Foundation Moving Ahead Curriculum provides questions to ask yourself:**

*Does your partner . . .*

- Steal money from you or your family? Force you to give access to your money or financial accounts?
- Make you feel as though you don't have a right to know any details about money, including household decisions?
- Make financial or investment decisions that affect you or your family without consulting or reaching an agreement with you?
- Forbid you to work or to attend school or training sessions?
- Overuse your credit card and refuse to pay the bills?
- Prevent you from obtaining or using credit cards or bank cards?
- Withhold physical resources from you, such as food, clothes, medications, or shelter?
- Refuse to work to help support the family?
- Interfere with your performance at work, such as frequent telephone calls, emails, or visits to your workplace?
- Force you to turn over your benefit or public assistance payments or threaten to falsely report you for "cheating" on your benefits so they will be cut off?

The Allstate Foundation Moving Ahead Curriculum emphasizes that if the answer to a majority of these questions was yes, then you may be in a financially abusive relationship. Resources are available to those who are in financially abusive relationships. The Allstate Foundation Moving Ahead Curriculum provides strategies to assist victims in understanding their situation and empowering them to be financially independent.

For more information, visit

<https://allstatefoundation.org/what-we-do/end-domestic-violence/resources/>

GCASAFV's Financial INdependence and Empowerment (FINE) Project focuses on supporting domestic violence survivors address financial abuse. Email [info@GuamCoalition.org](mailto:info@GuamCoalition.org) for more information.



# National Network to End Domestic Violence: 2021 FVAM #Every1KnowsSome1

In recognition of Domestic/Family Violence Awareness Month, GCASAFV is participating with the National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) and other state coalitions across the nation with starting a coordinated national conversation about domestic violence and how we can all contribute to changing the script on this very overshadowed, but fundamental topic.

You can help by joining us! Show your support for victims and survivors by following our social media accounts and by also sharing the content NNEDV prepared throughout the October with the hashtag #Every1KnowsSome1. Participate in NNEDV's week of action from October 18 - 24, 2021, and stay engaged throughout the year to show your support.

- Media Monday (10/18): Share a piece of media on your own social channels that bring awareness to domestic violence.
- Twitter Chat Tuesday (10/19): Join NNEDV throughout the day Tuesday as they ask questions on Twitter. More information is coming soon!
- Do Work Wednesday (10/20): What does "do work" mean? Well, we all have a role to play in ending domestic violence. Share and follow GCASAFV's social media accounts.
- Purple Thursday (10/21): It's our favorite day of #DVAM: #PurpleThursday! We're wearing purple today to show our support for survivors and our commitment to ending violence. Get the Purple Thursday printables, frames, and more in NNEDV's toolkit.
- Awareness Friday (10/22): Read a story or listen to a podcast about a survivor's story.
- Speak up Saturday (10/23): Policy and advocacy are key to our work to end domestic violence, and we need your voice to make a difference. Sign up for NNEDV's action alerts today.
- Sharing Sunday (10/24): Domestic violence can happen to anyone, and it's likely happening to someone close to you. Today is a perfect day to share resources.

We look forward to you joining us and NNEDV in this Week of Action!

To learn more, visit [https://nnedv.org/latest\\_update/dvam-2021-every1knowssome1/](https://nnedv.org/latest_update/dvam-2021-every1knowssome1/)

## Recognizing the Potential Signs of Domestic or Sexual Violence in the Workplace

Domestic violence is an issue that affects numerous men and women - 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men, and 1 in 6 women and 1 in 33 men will experience sexual violence (FUTURES' National Resource Center on Workplaces Respond to Domestic & Sexual Violence).

The effects of abuse can be devastating for survivors. Employees who are victims of domestic and sexual violence may exhibit signs of "problem employees" as they may be disengaged or fail to meet performance expectation. Employees who are victims of domestic violence and sexual assault may experience the following:

- Increased absenteeism: According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, survivors of domestic violence lost 7.1 paid days of work a year and survivors of sexual violence lost 8.1 paid days of work a year.
- Inability to concentrate: Adams et al. found that trauma and fear can significantly impact brain function resulting in a fight or flight response that can diminish cognitive functioning.
- Increase in personal calls or visits: Swanberg et al. asserted that domestic violence is about power and control, and abusive partners may monitor their partners by calling or showing up to their partner's work place unannounced.

To learn more, visit <https://www.workplacesrespond.org/resource-library/recognizing-potential-signs/>

# 2021 October Family Violence Awareness (FVAM) Events

## Erica's House FVAM Wave

In recognition of October being Family Violence Awareness Month and in support of victims and survivors, Erica's House, Inc. invites you to join their FVAM Wave on Wednesday, October 13, 2021. Erica's House will be hosting the wave at two locations; Skinner's Plaza (across Chamorro village) and the ITC intersection. Show time is at 4:30 PM and wave time is at 5:00 PM to no later than 6:00 PM ChST.



Sign up today to join! Note: *A maximum of 25 vaccinated individuals per location. Please remember to wear your face masks and continue to practice social distancing protocols by maintaining six feet from each other.*

To sign up for the Skinner's Plaza location:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1mcmKvH4jXDWeutWM1JRKQCzgaMvGImu4RRRA0JdPIZY/edit>

To sign up for the ITC intersection:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1o-m\\_ahROQ0rQNHpUv1US04FPcc3bjNrNOoPIQOmttjA/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1o-m_ahROQ0rQNHpUv1US04FPcc3bjNrNOoPIQOmttjA/edit)

For more information, contact Kate at 788-5565 if you are going to the ITC Intersection or Keimiella at 929-5584 if you are attending at Skinner's Plaza.

## Alee Shelter October FVAM Friday Waves

Alee Shelter is doing their part to raise awareness this Family Violence Awareness Month by holding weekly waves every Friday, from 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM ChST at different locations throughout October. Don't forget to honk your horns in support of FVAM!

For more information, contact Diana Cruz at 648-5888.

## GCASAFV Family Violence Awareness Month "Waves in the Villages"

GCASAFV with community members and partners will further efforts to raise awareness about the issue of family violence on our island with its "Waves in the Villages" on Wednesday, October 20, 2021, showtime is at 4:30 PM ChST, and wave time is at 5:00 PM ChST to no later than 6:00 PM ChST. This event will be held in Yigo, Dededo, Tamuning, Barrigada, Mangilao, Hagatna, Yona, and Piti.

Special thanks to Piti Mayor Jesse L.G. Alig for his coordination with the village mayors and their staff - Yigo Mayor Anthony P. Sanchez, Dededo Mayor Melissa B. Savares, Tamuning Mayor Louise C. Rivera, Barrigada Mayor June U. Blas, Mangilao Mayor Allan R.G. Ungacta, Hagatna Mayor John A. Cruz, and Yona Mayor Bill A. Quenga.



GCASAFV Photo: 2020 FVAM "Waves in the Villages"

To sign up for a village today, visit

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/16kjYpe6d9nif0B8pXXq4uuEBHfA6RFT08OfTRFc2AfQ/edit?usp>

For more updates, visit [www.GuamCoalition.org](http://www.GuamCoalition.org) or email [info@GuamCoalition.org](mailto:info@GuamCoalition.org).

### 2021 kNow MORE Webinar/Conference Series: Transforming Services Addressing Domestic & Sexual Violence to Foster Healthy & Safe Spaces

GCASAFV presents the November webinar/conference series on Transforming Services Addressing Domestic & Sexual Violence to Foster Healthy & Safe Spaces. GCASAFV has scheduled this hybrid conference - virtual and in-person at the Hilton Resort & Spa Guam on November 3-5, 2021. This training will look into how the community addresses domestic and sexual violence and the ongoing need to transform services to better respond to the needs of victims/survivors given this 'new normal' environment. Presenters for this webinar/conference series include:

- **Nina Jusuf** has been working on domestic violence and sexual assault issues since 1992, as a hotline volunteer before becoming a shelter-based domestic violence advocate and later as the Executive Director of the San Francisco Women Against Rape for five years. She is one of the founders of the National Organization of Asians & Pacific Islanders Ending Sexual Violence and has led numerous trainings on sexual assault and domestic violence issues in general and API-specific trauma-informed services, and has provided technical assistance to API organizations.
- **Beverly Baligad, J.D.**, is the Director of Student Compliance and Title IX Coordinator at University of Hawaii - West Oahu, and has served as the Labor Relations, Executive Assistant to the President, Adjunct Faculty, Director of Compliance, and Title IX Coordinator. Her experience in development and implementation of all aspects of the Title IX processes includes training, investigations, programming, process reviews, and case management.
- **Barbara Yamashita** served as Deputy Director of the Department of Community Services with the City and County of Honolulu and as the Deputy Director for the Hawaii State Department of Human Services. She also served as the Maternal and Child Health Branch Chief and as the Community Health Division Chief. With over 30 years of experience, she acquired a broad public health perspective and experience. Barbara is currently the President of the Soroptimist International of Waikiki Foundation, President of the Board of the Bobby Benson Center and adolescent drug treatment program; a board member of a newly formed organization Change AGENTS, which focuses on issues of ageism, and a governor-appointed member of the Policy Advisory Board for the Executive Office on Aging. Barbara holds a Masters degree in Social Work from the University of Hawaii.

Registration information and updates will be posted on [www.GuamCoalition.org](http://www.GuamCoalition.org). For more information, email [info@GuamCoalition.org](mailto:info@GuamCoalition.org).

### We Want To Hear From You: Addressing Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence in Our Community

The Guam Coalition wants to hear from you about the current issues in our community related to sexual assault and domestic violence. As we continue to adapt to our 'new normal' spaces following the COVID-19 pandemic, we would like to hear from you, especially regarding resources and support your agency/organization may need to ensure delivery of services to victims/survivors of sexual assault and domestic violence in our community.

Email [info@GuamCoalition.org](mailto:info@GuamCoalition.org) for feedback on what is happening in the field.

# Community Champion - Catholic Social Service Alee Family Shelter

The Alee Family Shelter provides emergency/protective shelter for family domestic violence and sexual assault victim-survivors. The shelter serves women, men, LGBTQ persons, with or without children, who are in crisis from family domestic violence & sexual assault.

## The services provided include:

- Protective shelter for up to 90 days.
- Moral and physical support for victims to begin a new healthy lifestyle.
- Safety Planning.
- Transportation to community-based appointments.
- Respite care and childcare as needed to allow adult clients to access services to ensure their future safety and to promote independent living.
- Case management services to obtain necessary financial assistance.
- Referral assistance and linkages to community resources to attain SNAP, housing, behavioral healthcare, physical healthcare, and legal services for clients.
- Coordinated entry and referral for local and federal housing programs for qualifying households.
- Access to workshops, life skills classes, that focus on good hygienic healthcare, family health, nutrition, food housekeeping, parenting skills, coping skills, assertive communication, building self-esteem, and enhancing knowledge of self-worth which helps to improve interpersonal relationships.
- Continued care services after leaving the shelter.

For more information or to contact Alee Women's Shelter, call their hotline at 648-4673 (HOPE).



October is . . .

## National Bully Awareness Prevention Month

The Guam Coalition also recognizes October as National Bully Awareness Prevention Month. Stopbullying.gov indicates that kids who are bullied can experience negative physical, social, emotional, academic, and mental health issues. Additionally, kids who bully others may also engage in violent and risky behavior as adults. Stopbullying.gov indicates that kids who bully are more likely to:

- Abuse alcohol and other drugs in adolescents and as adults.
- Get into fights, vandalize property, and drop out of school.
- Engage in early sexual activity.
- Have criminal convictions and traffic citations as adults.
- Be abusive toward their romantic partners, spouses, or children as adults.

Early intervention through talking to children about bullying will also have a role in ending domestic violence. Kids who bully are more likely to engage in domestic violence.

**stopbullying.gov**

To learn more about the effects of bullying, visit <https://www.stopbullying.gov/bullying/effects>.

## National Disability Employment Awareness

Every year National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) is recognized in October. The theme this year, "America's Recovery: Powered by Inclusion," reflects the importance of ensuring that people with disabilities have full access to employment opportunities and community involvement. The Guam Coalition recognizes National Disability Employment Awareness as individuals with disabilities are also victims of sexual assault and domestic violence. According to the Center on Victimization and Safety (2021), people with intellectual disabilities experience sexual assault seven times more than people without disabilities. To learn more about National Disability Employment Awareness Month, visit <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/odep/initiatives/ndeam>



## Breast Cancer Awareness Month - Wear it pink on October 22, 2021

On October 22, the Guam Coalition staff will wear pink to recognize Breast Cancer Awareness Month. According to BreastCancer.org, about 1 in 8 women (about 13% of women) will develop invasive breast cancer throughout their lifetime. Additionally, in 2021, an estimated 281,550 new cases of invasive breast cancer are expected to be diagnosed in women in the United States.

**BREAST  
CANCER  
NOW** The research  
& care charity

wear it pink

Also, in 2021, about 2,650 cases of invasive breast cancer are expected to be diagnosed in men. As we continue during these very uncertain times in this global COVID-19 pandemic, we must do what we can to protect ourselves and ensure that we are well. This October, let's remember to take care of ourselves and get screened.

For more information, visit <https://breastcancer.org/get-involved/do-your-own-fundraising/wear-it-pink>

**WEBINAR**

**What are We Missing: Common Clery Act Gaps in Institution Policies for Dating Violence, Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Stalking**, hosted by Clery Center for Security on Campus  
**Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 5:00 AM - 6:30 AM ChST**

**Description:** This webinar will highlight consistent gaps related to the inclusion of Clery Act requirements in dating violence, domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking policies and how to address these problems, including those related to: describing the steps, anticipated timelines, and decision-making processes of all proceedings that address DVSAS incidents in the policy itself as well as the institutional annual security report; describing the intersection of policies addressing DVSAS, including incidents subject to Title IX requirements as well as those that are not and ensuring that rights and options afforded to both student and employee reporting parties are made available across campus policies.

**For more information, email [jputhran@clerycenter.org](mailto:jputhran@clerycenter.org)**

**Exploring Risk Assessment in the Context of Campus Coordinated Community Response Efforts**, hosted by Clery Center for Security on Campus

**Thursday, November 18, 2021 at 5:00 AM - 6:30 AM ChST**

**Description:** The use of risk assessment is often a key strategy for communities seeking to reduce intimate partner recidivism and homicides. This webinar will provide a framework for understanding the various risk assessment tools in the field and their intended function. This webinar will explore the potential applicability of the use of risk assessment in the campus setting and discuss the process for successful selection and implementation of a risk assessment tool.

**For more information, email [jputhran@clerycenter.org](mailto:jputhran@clerycenter.org)**

**25th Annual BISC-MI (hybrid) Conference: From Theory to Practice: Focusing on Sexualized Abuse, Sexual Respect, and Sexual Health in Battering Intervention Programs (BIP)**, hosted by Batterer Intervention Services Coalition of Michigan

**Wednesday, November 17 to Saturday, November 20, 2021 at 11:30 PM - 8:30 AM ChST**

**Description:** This conference will present information about how to incorporate relevant education and conversations regarding sexual abuse and violence into BIP services. Participants will have the opportunity to explore in-depth strategies, techniques, concepts, and tools to increase understanding about exploitation, coercion, imposing of sexual values onto others, sexual socialization, ignorance or lack of identities and sexuality, intimacy, how consent is compromised, safety concerns, critical thinking, and sexual literacy.

**Click Here to Register:** <https://web.cvent.com/event/a31ae9fb-6ea3-4a6a-8911-e13b6a7705ab/regProcessStep1>



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**GUAM COALITION AGAINST SEXUAL ASSAULT & FAMILY VIOLENCE**

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