



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

October 2015

Domestic Violence Awareness

This month is an opportunity to remember that the crime of domestic violence affects not just the households in which it occurs, but the surrounding communities as well. It takes a unified community to address this crime, including the many individuals who work to help prevent domestic violence, raise awareness of this ongoing problem and assist those who are victimized by domestic violence.

California victims of domestic violence can receive assistance from local agencies, nonprofit and community-based organizations, and the state's Victim Compensation Program. Victim-Witness Assistance Centers are located in each California county and crime victim advocates at these centers can help guide victims and connect them with resources, such as applying for victim compensation or finding a domestic violence shelter.

Despite California's best efforts, the blight of domestic violence persists. By learning where to get help and being alert to the signs of abuse, we can each do our part in reducing domestic violence and preventing its most tragic outcomes. The occasion of Domestic Violence Awareness Month is an opportunity to bring focus to what is being done to address this problem and what more can still be done.

Sincerely,


EDMUND G. BROWN JR.