

**A National Day of Action Against Domestic Violence**

We need your help to end intimate partner violence. It’s a bigger issue than people realize. Between 2001-2012, 6,488 US troops were killed in Iraq and Afghanistan. Such deaths are tragic. It’s also tragic and infrequently noticed that during that same time period on American soil, 11,766 women were murdered by their current or ex-partners. We can change this. Here is our action plan.

To kick off National Domestic Awareness Month in 2019, a National Day of Action is scheduled for October 5, 2019. Communities all around the country are asked to form teams to create events around the issue of Domestic Violence.

These events bring local creative communities into direct contact with local service providers. We ask attendees and participants to make commitments to support specific legislation and to consider giving resources to end this national scourge.

A staged “Die In” can conclude the local events as a visual demonstration of the shocking number of women’s domestic violence deaths in the US. Female participants, who are able, will gently fall to the ground and assume a posture reflecting death. Other participants, including men, can make a protective circle around them. After a brief silence, one woman will help the person closest to her to her feet, with a domino effect as others are helped to their feet, symbolizing survival from domestic violence. The event will conclude with everyone celebrating our power to diminish violence.

In addition to the “Die In” aspect of the program each community can use local creative people to perform, such as theatre people, dancers, story tellers, singers, etc.. Their program and hand-outs could highlight healthy relationships, teach danger signs for intimate partner violence, and offer information about local and national DV services.

Participating communities are asked to film the event, especially the “Die In”. These films will be collected by Healing Voices – Personal Stories, a non-profit film company. Healing Voices-Personal Stories will edit the footage into a short professional documentary, and will offer this free documentary for wide distribution. It will further drive home the point that we must stop the unseen terror of intimate partner violence.

[https://dvdayofaction.org](https://dvdayofaction.org/)

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Committee for the National Day of Action Against Domestic Violence