

Letter: Do something about domestic violence

To the community,

I have always found it interesting that October is both Domestic Violence Awareness Month and Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Both issues are very important, and when either touches a woman, the effects are devastating for her, her family, and her friends.



Jenny Davidson

We have been able to make great strides on both these fronts in recent years, but domestic violence still occurs far too often. Over 3.7 million women are victims of domestic violence every year—that's 15 times the number of women who will be diagnosed with breast cancer annually.

Like breast cancer, domestic violence is not exclusive to women. Although 1 in 4 women will experience domestic violence, 1 in 7 men will also become victims. Rates of victimization are even higher in the LGBTQ community. No one should ever be subjected to domestic violence.

You can make a difference:

- Store our crisis line number, 800.575.5352, on your phone.
- Offer non-judgmental support to loved ones who disclose

domestic violence and help them to connect with Stand Up Placer.

- Take part in Domestic Violence Awareness Month activities.
- Consider making a donation to Stand Up Placer to help us provide critical services for survivors and their children.

You probably know one or more friends, family members, or co-workers who are survivors, even if you're not aware of it yet. What will you do when a friend or loved one confides their personal struggle with domestic violence? I'm asking you to take a stand today.

Sincerely,

Jenny Davidson, Stand Up Placer executive director