

The Purple Corner
October 2010

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Did You Know?

- One in every four women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime.
- Females who are 20-24 years old are at the greatest risk of nonfatal intimate partner violence.
- Boys who witness domestic violence are twice as likely to abuse their own partners and children when they become adults.
- One in 6 women and 1 and 33 men have experienced an attempted or completed rape.
- The cost of intimate partner violence exceeds \$5.8 billion each year.

Domestic violence impacts all of us, not just those who are directly involved in these relationships. It is not and I repeat **not**, in just certain areas of town and happening to a certain population. Nor is it something that happens among strangers. Domestic violence affects all socio-economic, racial, gender, age and religious groups. And this is why it is important for us as a society to address the issue together. Denying that it happens in our own community, family, workplace or place of worship does not make it go away. What are we doing to help end it?

My people perish for lack of knowledge. We must ask ourselves, how many people are perishing because of our lack of knowledge? How many people are suffering in silence because they think no one cares and no one can help? How many of these persons are sitting on the pew beside us each week? How many children are in our classrooms- public, private and church schools? How many of them are in our families, our neighborhoods or the cubicles beside us at work? I submit to you that they are closer than you may think.

Beauty for Ashes Ministry, Inc. would like to engage the faith community in a more active role in helping to eliminate domestic violence. We believe prevention is the key and so we ask you as a faith community, what are you doing to help in this matter? We are available to offer workshops, sermons and referrals relating to domestic violence. You may request our assistance by completing and submitting the form on the website. We also urge you to participate in the various community activities being offering throughout the month. Some of which are:

Another Face of Abuse – skit on elder abuse, October 17, 9:30am,
Mount Carmel Baptist Church, 7237 Tuckaseegee Road, Charlotte, North Carolina.

Annual Candlelight Vigil – October 21, 5pm ImaginOn

My Change Is Gonna Come Play – October 23, 6pm at Pease Auditorium, CPCC