National Domestic Violence Awareness Month is an annual designation observed in October. This month, we recognize the survivors and victims of abuse across the state whose courage inspires us all. The U.S. Department of Justice defines domestic violence as “a pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship that is used by one partner to gain or maintain power and control over another intimate partner.” Domestic violence impacts individuals in every community regardless of age, race, gender, religion, economic status or educational background; however, women are more likely than men to experience it. It can be emotional, psychological, economic, sexual, and/or physical. On October 2nd staff across the state participated in “Purple with a Purpose.” Staff was encouraged to wear purple in observance of domestic violence victims in Tennessee. Inside this issue are some photos from this day.

From the Director of Victim Services

To support victims, their families, and the laws that protect their rights, while utilizing recognized principles of offender behavioral change to help reduce the risk of repeat criminal behavior.

Victim Services Mission

Information regarding the status of offenders in prison with felony convictions
Registration for victim notification
Assistance with threats, unwanted calls/correspondence from an offender

Victim Services Provides:

Community education programs
Coordination with the Board of Parole, Attorney General’s Office, and the Tennessee District Attorney General’s Office to respond to victims’ concerns
Education to TDOC staff to increase awareness of victims’ issues
Collaboration with other victim advocates

Victim Services Activities:
Christa Rogers was recently appointed as the Victim Coordinator for District 41. Christa is originally from Colorado and moved to the South in 2011, to attend Tennessee Wesleyan College on a soccer scholarship. Christa graduated in 2015, with a Bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice. She started her career with TDOC in 2016, as a Correctional Officer at Tennessee Prison for Women. She was promoted to a Parole Officer in 2017, and in 2019, promoted to Parole Officer III as the Absconder Coordinator. In her spare time, Christa enjoys exploring the great outdoors, working out, hanging out with friends, finding new recipes to whip up in the kitchen and watching her favorite shows/movies on Netflix. As the new victim coordinator for District 41, Christa wants to help victims regain their confidence and provide guidance in any situation they may need, “I want to be someone they can trust and open up to.”

Welcome Christa!
Purple with a Purpose

OIC

Renea Edmondson– VWC 23rd JD

District 70-Memphis

Attorney General Victim Liaisons

TPFW Transition Center
Purple with a Purpose
Purple with a Purpose

District 60-Jackson

Nashville DRC Poster

District 40 Victim Coordinator
October is also National Bullying Prevention Month. Bullying is a form of aggressive behavior in which someone intentionally and repeatedly causes another person injury or discomfort. Bullying can take the form of physical contact, words or more subtle actions.

The bullied individual typically has trouble defending him or herself and does nothing to “cause” the bullying. Bullying can happen anywhere. Many children and teens are regular victims of bullying, which can lead to serious emotional scarring and problems with the victim’s self-esteem and self-image.

There are several types of bullying:

- **Verbal-** This type of bullying usually involves name calling and or teasing
- **Social-** Spreading rumors, intentionally leaving others out of activities on purpose, breaking up friendships are all examples of social bullying.
- **Physical-** This traditional form of bullying involves hitting, punching, shoving and other acts of intentional physical harm.
- **Cyberbullying-** This method of bullying involves using the internet, texting, email and other digital technologies to harm others.

Signs to look for when someone is a victim of bullying:

- Comes home with unexplained injuries or with damaged or missing clothing or other belongings
- Has change in eating habits
- Makes excuses not to go to school
- Avoids certain places or playing outside alone
Save the Date
17th Annual Tennessee Season to Remember
Thursday December 5, 2019, at 5:30 p.m.
First Baptist Church, 108 7th Avenue S. (Broadway)

Powerfully Thankful

You Have the Power Presents:
8th Annual Powerfully Thankful Event and Auction
November 21, 2019, 5:30-8:00 PM
Cabana

Tennessee Voices for Victims
#RememberMovement
Remember someone or something special by purchasing this unique license plate. In doing so, you’ll also help crime victims continue their healing journey.

Tennessee Department of Correction
Victim Services
5th Floor Rachel Jackson Building
320 6th Avenue North
Nashville, TN 37243
615-253-8145 ph
Victim.Notification@tn.gov