

STATE OF ILLINOIS
CIRCUIT COURT
SEVENTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

JOHN S. LOWRY
Chief Judge



WINNEBAGO COUNTY COURTHOUSE
400 WEST STATE STREET, SUITE 215
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS 61101
PHONE (815) 319-4806

September 26, 2024

For Immediate Release

Contact: Ireland Griep
FVCC Coordinator
Phone: 815-516-2443
Email: igriep@17thcircuit.illinoiscourts.gov

MEDIA RELEASE

OCTOBER IS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

ROCKFORD, IL – Judge Jennifer Clifford, Chairperson of the 17th Judicial Circuit Family Violence Coordinating Council (FVCC) and co-chair of the Statewide FVCC, announces that October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The community is encouraged to support the multiple community awareness activities planned throughout the month, beginning with hosting an information booth and related activities at Rockford City Market the evening of September 27th. Community awareness activities seek to provide education and honor those who have been impacted by violence in Winnebago and Boone counties.

The FVCC has planned many awareness activities throughout the month of October including a weekly virtual community lunch and learn series. The annual Shining the Light on Domestic Violence ceremony for Winnebago County will be held at Crusader Community Health on West State Street on Tuesday, October 29th at 5:30pm. Boone County's annual Shining the Light on Domestic Violence Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, October 1st at the Belvidere Moose Lodge. Additional information about planned events can be found on the attached calendar or by visiting the 17th Judicial Circuit Family Violence Coordinating Council Facebook page. Honorable Jennifer Clifford commented, "We have several opportunities throughout the month of October where those in our community can learn about the various forms of domestic violence and prevention efforts against domestic violence that exist here in the 17th Circuit. We are thankful for the multiple organizations that partner with us not only in October but throughout the entire year to address our community's response to domestic violence."

The 17th Judicial Circuit Family Violence Coordinating Council is funded by the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority and serves Boone and Winnebago counties. The FVCC serves as a forum to coordinate community and professional efforts to address family violence, including domestic violence, teen dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, and child abuse. For more information about the work of the FVCC, contact Ireland Griep at igriep@17thcircuit.illinoiscourts.gov

#####