

2016 GFWC Florida Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Creativity Report



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Tie a Purple Ribbon 'Round the Old Crepe Myrtle'

During the month of October, **GFWC Fort Walton Beach Woman's Club** participated in Domestic Violence Awareness Month in grand style. Members tied deep purple ribbons with a large bow around the 42 crepe myrtle trees in the median in front of the South Okaloosa County Court Annex in Fort Walton Beach, FL. Looking for ways to maximize the impact of this project, the club chose a particular road for its visibility as well as the number of cars that drive past daily. In order to make passersby aware of Domestic Violence Prevention Month, the club purchased signs which also helped the community understand the purpose of the purple ribbons. Members placed the signs at every turn lane along the landscaped portion of the median to make an awe-inspiring statement. Original designs of the Fort Walton Beach Woman's Club members were used to create the signs, which had the caption "*Recognize, Report, Stop Domestic Violence*" and listed the GFWC Fort Walton Beach Woman's Club, along with their logo, as sponsors.

The club members hoped to inspire members of the community to take a strong stand against domestic violence as well as to bring awareness to the uninformed. The GFWC Florida Chairs were so impressed with the project, that they plan to introduce it to all clubs and make this a statewide project this Fall.

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