

MEN STANDING WITH WOMEN AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

In 1999, the Community Crisis Center held its first "Men Standing With Women" community rally to raise awareness about domestic violence and to stress the need for men to advocate for an end to this form of violence in our communities. More than 900 men signed the following petition:

For too long, domestic violence has been considered exclusively a "Women's Issue". We, the undersigned men, now recognize that domestic violence must no longer be viewed as a problem affecting only women. Partner abuse is a problem that affects all of us, overwhelming our courts and hospitals, spilling over into our streets, and filling our morgues. We men must be a part of the solution if we are to halt the deadly toll this epidemic is taking.

**We the undersigned pledge not to participate in relationship violence, and
not to tolerate it in other men.**

**We pledge to take a leadership role in discouraging other men from
abusing their partners.**

**We pledge not to remain silent bystanders, as silence has served to
condone abuse.**

**We pledge to be the buddies, the teammates, and the co-workers, the
brothers and fathers who say that
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE MUST STOP!**

WE WILL NOT SILENTLY STAND BY AND ALLOW IT TO CONTINUE.

Today, the Community Crisis Center continues to encourage men to take an active stand against domestic violence in our communities, and to become involved in advocating for an end to a societal acceptance of violence on a community, state, national, and world level.

For more information, we would like to refer you to some resources available through the **Family Violence Prevention Fund**.

"Coaching Boys into Men" – Offers suggestions and support for presenting boy with positive messages about what it means to be a man, and how it is essential to teach and model for boys that there is no place for violence in relationships with women. Go to <http://endabuse.org/cbim/>.

"Founding Fathers Campaign" – On Father's Day 2003, 350 Founding Fathers, as they came to be called, stood together on violence committed against women and children and said in union: "**No more.**" This web site offers information on how we can honor the men in our lives who have stood up to violence in our communities. Go to <http://founding-fathers.org/>.