



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Andrea Stewart-Cousins

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

ANDREA STEWART-COUSINS October 2, 2013



**OCTOBER IS
NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
AWARENESS MONTH**

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The issue of addressing and ending domestic violence and helping its victims to reclaim their lives remains a top priority for Senator Stewart-Cousins. It starts with awareness in our communities, and our willingness to reach out to friends, family, and neighbors to let them know that help is available.

Domestic Violence accounted for more than a quarter (27%) of reported physical assault cases in New York State during 2012, and, according to the National Coalition Against

Domestic Violence, 70% of domestic violence incidents go unreported. Last year 58% of female homicide victims in New York aged 16 and up were killed by an intimate partner. Victims who survive domestic violence often suffer mental and emotional trauma, and include women, men, and children.

Children who witness violence in the home, including the aftermath, can suffer severe emotional and developmental difficulties that are similar to those who have been abused directly. The Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence was formed in 1992 to prevent and increase response to domestic violence, and works in conjunction with local communities, the Department of Justice, and non-public organizations.

For more information and resources, visit the [NYS Office for the Prevention of Domestic Violence](#) or the [U.S. Office on Violence Against Women](#).