



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS, FORT DEVENS  
31 QUEBEC STREET  
FORT DEVENS, MASSACHUSETTS 01434-4424

IMDE-ZA

10 September 2015

MEMORANDUM FOR ALL GARRISON AND TENANT EMPLOYEES

SUBJECT Domestic Violence Prevention Month in the Army: It Starts with Respect:  
Domestic Violence is Never OK.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month is recognized October of each year. In recent years, there has been an upward trend in substantiated cases of domestic violence in the Army. It is important to realize that many causes and conditions contribute to domestic violence, and it takes more than the usual effort to reduce the risk.

Without every one of us doing our part, we cannot say our Army is fully ready to meet the mission of preventing domestic violence. Any time an Army Family member suffers from abuse, we fall short of our goals for readiness. Therefore, the message to everyone in the Fort Devens community for Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2015 is clear and simple:

It starts with respect: Live by core values to keep your relationship healthy and strong. Core values are more than talk. Core values are lived and reflected in our everyday practices and interactions. Just as each branch of the military has a set of core values, so should every relationship.

Every couple experiences relationship challenges. No matter how tough times get, commit to living by core values and working through problems in a healthy way.

Children learn about relationships by watching the people they know best. Set the stage for your child's future relationships by modeling safe, respectful communication and conflict resolution with your spouse or partner.

Join me in making this October's Domestic Violence Awareness Month the beginning of a year-round campaign to end domestic abuse. Let the Fort Devens Family Advocacy Program be your partner in preventing and reducing the risk of domestic abuse, and restore valued relationships that are deteriorating. Everyone plays a role in upholding the Army values and standards that support safe, healthy relationships for everyone in the military community.

POC is Imelda Fisher at 978 796 3023 or [imelda.fisher.civ@mail.mil](mailto:imelda.fisher.civ@mail.mil)

  
CHARLETTE K. WOODARD  
LTC, AG  
Commanding