



CITY OF
COLUMBIA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Annual Mayor's Walk Against Domestic Violence

Registration Now Open

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The City of Columbia will host the 5th Annual Walk Against Domestic Violence on Saturday, October 8, 2011 at Finlay Park (930 Laurel Street). This walk is FREE to the public.

Registration is now open. Please register with Khali Gallman at kagallman@columbiasc.net or 803-545-4418. Late registration will take place the morning of the walk at 8am, and the walk will begin promptly at 9am. **Deadline to register is Wednesday, October 5, 2011.** Registration forms can be found at www.columbiasc.net.

One in four women has experienced domestic violence in her lifetime. South Carolina ranks #9 in the nation for numbers of women killed by men, according to the South Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (SCCADVASA-<http://www.sccadvasa.org/domestic-violence-facts-and-stats/sc-ranks-9-for-women-killed-by-men.html#>) (2010 report/based on 2008 data). Domestic violence has been noted as the number one crime problem in South Carolina, with more than 36,000 victims annually reporting incidences to law enforcement agencies around the state.

“Domestic violence continues to plague our community,” commented Councilwoman Tameika Isaac Devine. “We must bring awareness to this issue to ensure that these unsightly statistics lessen. It is our duty as a community to take a stand against domestic violence, and praise those local service providers and volunteers who assist victims, their families, and survivors.” Councilwoman Devine serves as chairperson of the City of Columbia’s Domestic Violence Task Force.

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