

Kinship Quarterly Strengthening Families

October 2022

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Initially seen as a National Day of Unity in 1981, the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) was organized in October 1987, and these three themes remain a key part of DVAM events: Mourning those who have died because of domestic violence, Celebrating those who have survived, and Connecting those who work to end violence.

[2022 Domestic Violence Awareness Month \(ncadv.org\)](https://ncadv.org)



Mourn, Celebrate & Connect

Children who witness violence are at greater risk for difficulty with concentration, feelings of sadness and anger, or depression.

Following are links to information about domestic violence, where to get started finding help for the child you are caring for, and local events you can participate in. Events are held locally by Family Violence Programs (FVPs) and their allies in Battering Intervention and Prevention Programs (BIPPs) as well as community groups and partners. State and national groups also organize to increase awareness, to *mourn, celebrate, and connect*.

[#1Thing Action Guide: Inspiring Action Through a Unified Message | Prevent IPV](#)

[Domestic Violence Awareness | Texas Council on Family Violence \(tcfv.org\)](#)

[Find Help | Texas Council on Family Violence \(tcfv.org\)](#)

[Domestic Violence Awareness Month - The Hotline Domestic Violence Resource Guide \(state.tx.us\)](#)



Texas Department of
Family and Protective Services
Child Protective Services



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Fall Fun

With the weather changing and the cooler temperatures ahead, fall is the perfect time to try a new activity with your child.

- Play in the leaves
- Go for a nature walk
- Have a scavenger hunt
- Go to the library to find books about the fall season
- Start a new family tradition, like going to the zoo or a fall festival, or baking something together
- Building a scarecrow out of old clothes stuffed with straw or leaves
- Let small children decorate a pumpkin with paint or markers
- Monitor what your child watches on TV (make sure scary movies are age appropriate)

Halloween Ideas

Help your child make a costume.

Make sure an adult goes trick-or-treating with children, even on your own street.

Carry glow sticks or flashlights

Slow down and be alert. Kids are excited on Halloween and may dart into the street.

Remind kids to cross the street at corners or crosswalks.

After trick-or-treating, make sure your child's candy is safe to eat.

Know how much candy is collected and keep it in the kitchen where you can monitor it. Don't keep candy in the house for a long time. Set a date to get rid of what's left.

Resources

- **Superior/STAR Health**
<https://www.fostercaretx.com/for-members/find-a-provider.html>
- **Parenting Tips**
<https://www.getparentingtips.com>
- **Housing/Utility Assistance Programs**
www.needhelppayingbills.com/html/get_help_paying_rent.html
- **Your Texas Benefits**
www.yourtexasbenefits.com/Learn/Home
- **2-1-1 Texas**
www.211texas.org/
- **Texas WIC**
<https://texaswic.org/>
- **Kinship Manual**
www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child_Protection/Kinship_Care/documents/KinshipManual.pdf
- **Texas Kinship Caregivers Facebook Page**
[m.facebook.com/TexasKinshipCaregivers](https://www.facebook.com/TexasKinshipCaregivers)
- **Kinship Care**
www.dfps.state.tx.us/Child_Protection/Kinship_Care/default.asp

Kinship Support Groups are an important part of The Kinship Program. If you want more information about support groups in your area, please ask your Kinship Development Worker. If you want to be involved in improving the Kinship Program, consider joining the Kinship Collaboration Group. For more information on kinship support groups or becoming an advocate, please contact

Stephen Martinez at 512-960-9254.

"Autumn shows us how beautiful it is to let things go" –Unknown