



# DV Prevention Subcommittee (VIT) Action Team

**Monday, August 25, 2025**

# Agenda

1. Introductions
2. Why Don't They Just Leave Panel
3. Action Items
4. Future Projects
5. Upcoming Meetings
6. Meeting Close

# Introductions

- Welcome! Please sign in

## Action Team Co-Chairs

- **Taylor Spencer Davis**, Deputy Director at Southern Maryland Center for Family Advocacy
- **Michelle Pottinger**, Program Director, VIT Unit at SMCHD

# Why Don't They Just Leave Panel

- Domestic Violence Awareness month: October
- Panel: October 20
  - We have the room from 4 - 8 pm
  - 5:30 pm start time (open the room at 5pm), can run 1-2 hours depending on attendance
- Location: Lexington Park Library
- Other logistics:
  - Artistic aspect
    - Art contest for teens/adults
      - Prompt: Healthy relationships, what does love look like.
      - Publish by Sept. 6, contest closes Oct. 6, public voting for 1.5 weeks prior to event
      - Show the winners (and all submissions) at the beginning of the event
  - Packing bags for DV/SA
    - Last year we did 25
    - HSMP has charging kits, possibly do another sock drive
    - VIT Unit has 25 soft blankets and some bags
    - Period products from SMCHD
    - Taylor to ask the hotline team what they most often need
    - SBHC has sanitation kits we can ask about
    - Health Hub has some hygiene items we can ask about

# Canva

- Canva flyers for the panel, call for panelists, and for the art contest
  - Feedback was given and flyers were updated (pictured below)
  - Please share the flyers! You can click each to access the PNG



Call for Panelists  
Why Don't They Just Leave

Southern Maryland Center for Family Advocacy is seeking panelists for their annual "Why Don't They Just Leave" event on October 20

Panelists should have lived experience with domestic violence and be comfortable talking about this experience with others

Interested? Contact [taylorismcfa@gmail.com](mailto:taylorismcfa@gmail.com) for more information

The flyer features a purple background with a white ribbon at the bottom. At the top left is an icon of a scale of justice with a family silhouette. At the top right is the logo for 'HEALTHY ST. MARY'S PARTNERSHIP' featuring a lighthouse.



"WHY DON'T THEY JUST LEAVE?"  
PANEL & DISCUSSION

**October 20, 2025**  
Packing Bags 5 - 5:30 PM  
Panel 5:30 - 7 PM  
**Lexington Park Library**

Join Southern Maryland Center for Family Advocacy for an important conversation regarding healthy relationships and the resources available to survivors of Intimate Partner Violence here in Southern Maryland  
**Light refreshments provided!**

Scan to join the art contest!

Questions? Contact [taylorismcfa@gmail.com](mailto:taylorismcfa@gmail.com)

The flyer has a purple background with a white mountain range silhouette at the bottom. It features the same scale of justice and lighthouse logos as the first flyer.



**ART CONTEST**  
"WHAT DOES A HEALTHY RELATIONSHIP LOOK LIKE?"

ADULT AND TEEN CATEGORIES  
**SUBMISSIONS DUE OCTOBER 6**  
WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT THE "WHY DON'T THEY JUST LEAVE" PANEL ON OCTOBER 20!

SUBMIT YOUR ART BY SCANNING THE QR CODE:

QUESTIONS? CONTACT [STMARYSPARTNERSHIP@GMAIL.COM](mailto:STMARYSPARTNERSHIP@GMAIL.COM)

The flyer has a purple background with white paint splatters and a paint palette with a brush. It features a QR code in the bottom right corner.

# Panel

- Panelists needed?
  - Mix of professionals (advocacy, hospital, law enforcement) and those with lived experience
  - Call for panelists and reach out to specific people
    - 'Interview' someone ahead of time to ensure comfortability
    - Social worker from MedStar is confirmed
    - Trying to get someone from the State's Attorney's & law enforcement
- Logistics
  - Drinks/snacks- chips/cookies or water/gatorade
    - Taylor to send list to Nat for MOC to provide snacks
    - VIT can donate cases of water
  - At the beginning (5-5:30 pm) have people brainstorm about what they know, give a chance to write down questions they have to give to panelist (using index cards (before session) or Menti (during session))
  - Art contest: show slideshow of people who entered from 5-5:30
    - Print copies/frame for the back of the room
  - 18 volunteers from SMCF!

# Action Items

- **Lauren & Taylor** to publish flyers (September 2)
  - **Michelle** to reach out to mentoring groups to share the art contest after the flyer is released
  - **Andrea** to send the flyers through PeachJar
  - **Taylor** to send flyers to the art council
- After call for panelist is announced:
  - **Taylor** to follow up with applicants
- **Taylor** to ask the DV hotline what items they need the most
  - **Lauren** to start drive for what items are needed in late September/early october (ex. socks, toiletries, etc.)
- **Taylor** to send list of snacks and drinks needed to **Nat**
- **All members** to see if they have any contacts would be helpful on this subcommittee and let Lauren know to reach out

# Future Projects

- **SMCHD** has a mentoring group at GMHS that we could tap into for peer education
- **Commission for Women** is looking to potentially prioritize Intimate Partner Violence education and Teen Dating Violence education
  - We should learn more soon! We anticipate interest from the Commission
- Developing a flyer to be sent through PeachJar
  - Link to data statistics [slides](#)
  - What is love postcard
  - Work on a canva document to send through PeachJar for February
  - [Here](#) is a list of resources and ideas that we could implement next February for teen dating violence education
- Are there any other future projects or goals we would like to focus on?
  - Ask VITA what we're interested in, what we can collab on, and what the new FY will bring
  - Unstoppable You Ministries is doing their self defense workshop on Aug 2. We should pull in Jennifer Foxworthy for this subcommittee.

# Future Meetings

- Next Meeting: [meet.google.com/zth-nbgr-dzn](https://meet.google.com/zth-nbgr-dzn)
  - September 15 at 2 pm

Meeting Close

