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For Immediate Release:

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The Halifax River Yacht Club in Daytona Beach was the setting for the 5th Domestic Violence Awareness Luncheon and Meeting for the Domestic Abuse Council, Inc. of Volusia County. The event takes place during October because it is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month and a time to honor the survivors and victims.

During the event, the members of the Board of Directors are sworn in by Judge Dawn Fields. Three survivors shared their inspirational stories to a crowd of more than 190 community supporters and declared that they were rock stars. Each individual at the event was asked to become a rock star by writing a positive word or affirmation on a rock, displayed on the table in glass star shaped bowls. After the luncheon, the rocks were deposited into the empowerment bank at the shelter, where residents can make withdrawals and deposits as needed to lift their spirits.

The keynote speaker this year was nationally recognized Stacey Dougan, a lawyer and pioneer in the field of workplace violence and "Men Stopping Violence." She gave a rousing speech focusing on how domestic violence affects all segments of our population and how collectively we can make an impact on social change by holding perpetrators accountable and not re-victimizing the victim.

"We believe there is more awareness in both our local community and across the country. We are happy to see this shift, since we know the only way to end domestic violence is to prevent it," Cheryl Fuller, CEO of the Domestic Abuse council said.

To learn more about Domestic Abuse Council go to www.domesticabusecouncil.com. The Domestic Abuse Hotline is 1-800-500-1119.

END



New Board member Keith Dougan of DeLand, Guest Speaker Stacey Dougan of Atlanta and Cheryl Fuller, DAC CEO of Ormond Beach



Keith Dougan of DeLand w/white shirt & no tie; Glenna Colley of Ormond Beach; Paul Chipok of New Smyrna Beach In back with dark hair; John Power of Ormond Beach, with folder in his hand; Sherrilee Stoudt, Daytona Beach, in front, immediate past Chairwoman; behind her in way back, Trever Henderson, DeLand, 1st Vice-Chairman; Sally Gardiner, of Daytona Beach, in purple top, 2nd vice chairwoman; Dr. Diana Lee, Ormond Beach in patterned dress; Kimberly Dillon, Port Orange, Secretary; Michele Simonsen, Daytona Beach, Chairwoman; William Walden, Daytona Beach, and Janet Kersey, Ormond Beach. Absent are John Long, Port Orange, Treasurer and Lauren Nasser, Daytona Beach Shores.



Alfreida Walker, Judicial Assistant and Judge Dawn Fields who did the swearing in of the Board.

Services

- ❖ Emergency Shelter ❖ Transitional Housing ❖ School Based Prevention Programs ❖
- ❖ Court/Legal Advocacy ❖ Community Education and Professional Training ❖

Join the movement make a donation to Domestic Abuse Council at <https://www.crowdraise.com/PurplePurse-VolusiaCountyDAC>