interact

saving lives rebuilding lives securing safer futures

October 2025 Newsletter

DVAM kick-off at InterAct

Domestic Violence Awareness Month got underway with a bang on October 1, when InterAct staff and volunteers gathered for breakfast, themed activities, and preparation for a month of busy awareness events. The kick-off was hosted and staffed by volunteers from Cisco.

Purple-clad attendees (purple is the color for domestic violence awareness) decorated pantry bags inspired by local artist Makayla, added encouraging words to a hope board, entered a raffle, made a bracelet, and checked out swag and awareness materials to use when representing InterAct at community engagement events.

At the end of the morning, kick-off organizer Judy Goergen led everyone outside to plant purple flags beside the InterAct sign. “Think of someone you know, or have helped, who represents DV awareness for you,” Judy told the group.

In the Community

Alice for InterAct!

Loving Son Memorializes Mom for DVAM

Matthew Bullard was visiting InterAct partner Oak City Cares to learn about volunteer resources when he found out about InterAct.

Studying InterAct's mission of saving lives, rebuilding lives, and securing safer futures, he knew that his mother's story might have ended differently had she had access to a place like InterAct. Matt's mom Alice was only 14 or 15 when she was assaulted. What really happened is murky and it is unclear if there were ever any consequences for the assailant. Matt's grandparents were unable to be sympathetic and attributed the assault to Alice's "sinful life."

Despite carrying this burden, Alice carried on with her life and became a case manager in the social sector herself. She was a strong and loving single mom. But she could never

outrun the mental and emotional struggles and the crippling depression that resulted from the assault. Many years later, she took her own life.

Matt is running in the City of Oaks marathon on November 2—his mom's birthday—and he has created a Go Fund Me Campaign in her memory to benefit InterAct.

"Every donation, no matter the size, plays a significant role in creating a safer community," says Matt. "Together, we can help InterAct continue its mission to empower and uplift those affected by violence."

Donate to Matt's GoFundMe

Volunteer Spotlight

Volunteers from Cisco helped make InterAct's DVAM kick-off a success.

InterAct Staff and Volunteers Hit the Road for DVAM

From Wake Forest to Fuquay-Varina, Cary to Zebulon, InterAct staff and volunteers have been on the move this October—carrying a message of awareness along with posters, fliers, and a bit of swag to share. By showing up at outdoor community events, civic club meetings, college campuses, and medical centers, InterAct has helped spread the word about Domestic Violence Awareness Month throughout Wake County and beyond.

Their message is clear: while domestic violence continues to impact our communities, InterAct remains steadfast, providing hope, safety, and support. Thanks to all who represented InterAct and spread the word.

October 1 - Relationship Violence Awareness Month (RVAM) Kickoff Resource Fair, Duke University–Dot McFadden and Lindsey Nall
October 1 – NCSU DVAM kick-off
October 2 - Wake Chapel Church—Cindy Faison
October 4 – Hands of Protection/Raleigh Parks & Rec Be a Voice for Children Community Festival—Rae Auman
October 6 – Fuquay Women's Club—Virginia Schaible
October 8 - Meredith College Job Fair—Judy Goergen
October 8 – Purpose at Peace Engagement Fair, William Peace University—Judy Goergen
October 9- Women's Club of Garner—Cindy Faison
October 9 - Sexual Assault and Intimate Partner Violence, Shaw University—Dot McFadden
October 10 - Central Dermatology Open House—Angela Powell
October 11- 7th Annual Crosby Community Day—Julie Cox, Sayge Bancroft, Jamie Gabriel, May Cheung
October 11 – NC Local Music Fundraiser to Benefit InterAct—Judy Goergen and Walker Mabe
October 14- Beta Sigma Phi, Zebulon—Judy
October 15 - High school Juniorettes, Wake Forest High School—Judy Goergen
October 17 - The Trauma Patient Experiencing Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, presentation to WakeMed Trauma team, WakeMed Cary Hospital—Dot McFadden

(More to come in November newsletter!)

Make a Donation

All of InterAct's services are free of charge and open to all. Your gifts have helped us keep the doors open, the lights on, and the love flowing.

Every single gift adds up to something powerful. You're part of a community of donors who believe in the power of nonprofit action, and together we're making a difference. Make a donation for DVAM!

DONATE

THANK YOU

GRANTORS, DONORS, AND SUPPORTERS!

- Employees of Caterpillar
- NCSU Pack United
- The Powell Family Foundation - Carol P. Heller Family Division
- Castelloe Family Foundation
- Fuquay-Varina Women's Club
- First Horizon Foundation
- Town of Cary
- Shamrock Strategies Professional Coaching

Pass It On Thrift Stores support InterAct's mission to help victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. We deeply appreciate the generosity of our donors. Your contributions make a big impact.

Fuquay-Varina store open this Saturday, October 25, 10 am-4 pm.

Please schedule your donation in advance by emailing passiton@interactofwake.org.

Stay in the loop!

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