



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 6, 2006

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Domestic Violence Threatens Women's Health in Multiple Ways

**In Addition to the Risk of Injury and Death, Intimate Partner Violence is
Linked to Obesity, Tobacco Use, Substance Abuse, Sexually Transmitted
Diseases and Other Health Problems**

OCTOBER 11 IS HEALTH CARES ABOUT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE DAY, and the Champaign-Urbana Public Health District and A Woman's Fund will mark the occasion with a press conference on the many negative health consequences of this persistent problem.

The Press Conference will be Wednesday, October 11, from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Health District Satellite Office at 815 N. Randolph St. The event will feature the Silent Witness exhibit, with 10 full-size silhouettes of women killed in domestic violence incidents in Central Illinois in recent years. Domestic violence survivors will also be on hand to discuss the negative health consequences of their experiences, and the need for health providers to screen every single patient for abuse.

Intimate Partner Violence (IPV) is itself a danger to health, but it is also linked to higher risk for:

- **Obesity**: Childhood sexual abuse and non-sexual abuse increases the risk of morbid obesity. Women who have been sexually assaulted are also more likely to experience disturbed eating behaviors.

