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YWCA to Host Black Out Domestic Violence Rally

BIRMINGHAM, AL., April 29, 2016 --- In the wake of the recent rash of domestic violence homicides in the Birmingham area, YWCA Central Alabama will host a **Black Out Domestic Violence Rally on Monday, May 2, 2016 at noon in Linn Park**. Participants are urged to wear black in memory of those who have lost their lives to this senseless crime.

District Judge Katrina Ross will be among the speakers, which will include law enforcement and court officials and victims' advocates. "Enough is enough," said Annetta Nunn, community outreach coordinator for the YWCA. "Domestic violence happens everywhere and too many people in our community are being killed by abusers who claim to love them."

In the past six weeks, at least six people in the metro-Birmingham area have lost their lives to domestic violence, including two unborn babies. In addition, one woman was bloodied, beaten and held hostage by her ex-boyfriend for 36 hours to keep her from testifying against him in a prior domestic violence case.

"Everyone should be outraged about this," Nunn said. "We need to speak out and let victims know that help is available and we need to educate the public so that they can recognize the signs in case someone they love is suffering in silence."

The YWCA offers a broad array of services for domestic violence victims, including a 24-hour Crisis Hotline (205.322.4878), two confidentially-located domestic violence shelters, legal services and court advocacy and support groups for victims and their children. Hotline workers can help callers develop a safety plan and provide information about other lifesaving resources.

About the YWCA

The YWCA Central Alabama is a United Way organization that is dedicated to eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. The YW's programs and services serve women, children and families by providing: child development and after-school enrichment programs for homeless children; safe, affordable housing; a broad array of domestic violence services; and social justice programs. For more information, please visit www.ywcabham.org, www.facebook.com/YWCACentralAlabama and www.youtube.com/ywcentralal or follow @YWCentralAL on Twitter.

for every woman