



FARMINGTON HILLS POLICE DEPARTMENT



P R E S S R E L E A S E

Farmington Hills High Risk Response Team Receives Domestic Violence Prevention Award

The Farmington Hills High Risk Response Team (FHHRRT) was recognized for exemplary service and commitment to the victims of domestic violence at the 2013 Oakland Domestic Violence Prevention Awards ceremony held recently in Pontiac. The awards are presented annually by the Oakland County Coordinating Council Against Domestic Violence.

The FHHRRT was created in 2012 as a multi-disciplinary task force dedicated to developing a coordinated community response to high risk domestic violence cases. The team includes members from the Farmington Hills Police Department's Investigative Division, the 47th District Court, HAVEN of Oakland County, city and county prosecutors, Jewish Family Services, and others.

Research has shown that certain risk factors can predict homicide in abusive relationships; identification and evaluation of these risk factors requires specialized training in danger assessment for first responders such as police officers, medical staff, and domestic violence advocates. Once a case is identified as high risk, the team approach facilitates communication, timely action, and ongoing monitoring of the situation. The FHHRRT is based on a program developed in Massachusetts that successfully reduced the number of domestic violence homicides.

The FHHRRT meets on a monthly basis to identify and review domestic violence cases in Farmington Hills. Policies have been developed to ensure that offenders in high risk cases are contained and closely monitored, and to help victims easily receive the comprehensive services they deserve. Specialized training in danger assessment, secured through a grant from the Farmington/Farmington Hills Foundation for Youth and Families, has been crucial to the program's effectiveness.

Accepting the award on behalf of the team was FHHRRT Chair Sergeant Jon Haupt from the Farmington Hills Police Department. Additional team members in attendance included Judge Marla Parker (47th District Court), Ellen Yashinsky Chute (Jewish Family Services), Megan Widman and Colleen Monaghan (HAVEN of Oakland County), Cindy Reilly (Oakland County Pre-trial Services), and Detectives Ryan Molloy and Tom Allen (Farmington Hills Police Department).

Photo caption: Members of the Farmington Hills High Risk Response Team

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