

CHAPTER 204

AN ACT establishing a domestic violence public awareness campaign and supplementing Title 52 of the Revised Statutes.

BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State of New Jersey:

C.52:27D-43.35 Definitions relative to domestic violence.

1. As used in this act:

"Director" means the Director of the Division on Women in the Department of Community Affairs.

"Division" means the Division on Women in the Department of Community Affairs.

"Domestic Violence" means domestic violence as defined in section 3 of P.L.1991, c.261 (C.2C:25-19) and section 1 of P.L.2003, c.41 (C.17:29B-16).

C.52:27D-45.36 Domestic violence public awareness campaign.

2. a. The Director of the Division on Women in the Department of Community Affairs, in consultation with the Advisory Council on Domestic Violence and the Commissioners of Human Services and Health and Senior Services, shall establish a domestic violence public awareness campaign in order to promote public awareness of domestic violence among the general public and health care and social services professionals and provide information to assist victims of domestic violence and their children.

b. The public awareness campaign shall include the development and implementation of public awareness and outreach efforts to promote domestic violence prevention and education, including, but not limited to, the following subjects:

(1) the causes and nature of domestic violence;

(2) risk factors;

(3) preventive measures; and

(4) the availability of, and how to access, services in the community for victims of domestic violence, including, but not limited to, shelter services, legal advocacy services and legal assistance services.

c. The director shall coordinate the efforts of the division with any activities being undertaken by other State agencies to promote public awareness of, and provide information to the public about, domestic violence.

d. The director, within the limits of funds available for this purpose, shall seek to utilize electronic and print media, and may prepare and disseminate such written information as the director deems necessary, to accomplish the purposes of this act.

e. The division shall make available electronically on its Internet website in English and Spanish information about domestic violence as described in subsection b. of this section.

f. The director may accept, for the purposes of the public awareness campaign, any special grant of funds, services, or property from the federal government or any of its agencies, or from any foundation, organization or other entity.

g. The director shall report to the Governor and the Legislature, no later than 18 months after the effective date of this act, on the activities and accomplishments of the public awareness campaign.

3. The Director of the Division on Women, pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), shall adopt rules and regulations to effectuate the purposes of this act.

4. This act shall take effect immediately.

Approved August 23, 2005.