

The Umbrella
**Center for Domestic
Violence Services**



A program of BHcare

The Umbrella Center for Domestic Violence Services held its annual Candlelight Vigil and Sound of Hope this past October as part of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Each year the vigils are held to remember the victims who have lost their lives to domestic violence and to honor the survivors.

Nearly 70 people attended the vigil at Huntington Congregational Church Fellowship Hall in Shelton on Oct. 1. A special welcome was given by Mayor Mark Lauretti and Attorney Paul Garlinghouse was the keynote speaker. The vigil also included an invocation by Monsignor Robert Weiss, from St. Rose of Lima Roman Catholic Church in Newtown, the recognition of law enforcement officials and a survivor testimony.

The 15th Annual Sound of Hope was held October 8 at Long Wharf Pier, New Haven, CT. The ceremony featured testimony by a survivor, and the reading of names of those who lost their lives to domestic violence in the last year. Participants threw flowers into the harbor representing the hopes and struggles of the survivors as they work to end violence in their lives, and also honored those whose lives have been lost due to domestic violence.

Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro and Senator Richard Blumenthal spoke in support of domestic violence programs and services, honored our first responders, and supported our victims and survivors.