How An Empty Place is Displayed

This exhibit is comprised of victims' place settings, gathered and organized by families, friends, domestic violence shelters or other agencies. Each place setting is intended to convey the victim's unique personality, gifts, talents and values. Place settings consist of such items as plates, bowls, cups, saucers, mugs, glasses, globlets, eating utensils, napkins and placemats, as well as memorabilia representing the victim's personality and lifestyle. Memorabilia may include such items as sunglasses, candles, knick-knacks, small photographs, award certificates, a child's toy, a nurse's cap, a plane ticket, sea shells, a tape or CD of a favorite song, and a silk rose. These items may express the victim's desires, interests, hobbies, occupation and various life experiences, such as a favorite vacation or birthday, or a special achievement. Items in the exhibit may have been used or owned by the victim or may be representative of items the victim used. Items need not match or be of any particular quality.

HOW TO SELECT ITEMS

The process of selecting items for the place setting is an opportunity to use creativity in honoring the victim and her/his life. Although newspaper clippings and photographs may be included, such items are not to be used to dramatize or exploit the victim's murder. If the crime has not been solved, or the alleged perpetrator is currently being prosecuted, the place setting is not to set forth assertions regarding the identity of the perpetrator. This exhibit is not intended to focus on the guilt of the perpetrator or graphic details that sensationalize violent acts.

EMPTY PLACE MEMORIAL EXHIBIT PARTICIPATION FORM Contact Person's Name Fax # ()______--____ I will transport, set up and remove the place setting from the Statehouse. I will provide victim's story, profile and picture (if available) and give ACTION OHIO permission to replicate the place setting at the Statehouse. Signature _____ Date _____ VICTIM PROFILE Deceased Victim's Complete Name_____ Date of Birth / / ____ Date of Death ___/____ Murdered by ______ Relationship to the Victim_____ (or Alleged Murderer) Cause of Death _____ Location of Death _____ Disposition of Case History of Relationship Legal remedies used (Criminal & Civil) Other Information about the Victim (Personality, Occupation, Hobbies, etc.) Names & Ages of Children Were pets also murdered? _____ If so, what type/names of pets?_____ If you need more space, you may replicate this form or request a larger version of the form from ACTION OHIO. If you choose to honor more than one victim, please use one form for each victim. Copies of obituaries or news stories may be helpful in the creation of the victim's story. If available, please submit with the form to: ACTION OHIO (614-825-0551 | 888-622-9315) 5900 Roche Dr., Suite 445, Columbus, OH 43229 or fax (614.825.0673) or e-mail (actionohio@sbcglobal.net).

The Exhibit Overview & Purpose

Domestic violence is a deadly crime that creates a painful void - a permanent empty place at the table - for families whose loved ones were killed by their abusers. An Empty Place at the Table is a unique exhibit, which captures this reality and offers a reminder of the lethality of domestic violence.

An Empty Place at the Table:

- Recognizes the individuality of each victim.
- Establishes a way to mourn the loss of a life and demonstrate a family's love and healing.
- Raises awareness about domestic violence and the impact of this crime on our communities.

A TRIBUTE TO YOUR LOVED

In addition to creating the Memorial Exhibit at the Statehouse, ACTION OHIO also compiles the stories of all victims being honored, as a means of celebrating their lives and helping families heal. By filling in the Participation Form, you are providing the basis for the story about your loved one. You may provide additional information, such as newspaper clippings and/or a copy of the obituary. If you choose to write your loved one's story, you may submit that as well. ACTION OHIO reserves the right to edit material submitted to provide consistency and continuity. ACTION OHIO may need to contact a family member or friend to assist in the preparation of the story.



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FAMILIES' GUIDE TO

An Empty Place at the Table™ Memorial Exhibit

Honoring the lives of domestic violence victims

How to honor your loved ones



Sponsored By **ACTION OHIO Coalition For Battered Women** www.actionohio.org