Armstrong County Commissioners signed a proclamation supporting October 2011 as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Ms. JoEllen Bowman, Executive Director of HAVIN in Armstrong County attended the meeting to accept the proclamation.

In the past year in Armstrong County, HAVIN provided more than 694 domestic violence victims and their significant others with counseling services. Armstrong County's HAVIN also provided shelter for more than 115 individuals totaling 3,268 days.

Ms. Bowman expressed her appreciation to the Board of Commissioners and members of the community for their continued support of HAVIN and the programs that they offer. She stated that this year the focus for the month will be child abuse and the connection between children raised in a home with abuse and the continued abuse they administer / endure in adult relationships. HAVIN hopes that by focusing on victims at a young age they can turn the dynamics around. October 24, 2011 will be Community Awareness Day; Ms. Bowman will be the coordinator this year and announced that the week will be filled with activities throughout the community.

She invited everyone to attend a fundraising event to be held October 22, 2011 from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm at Kittanning Township Fire Hall. The event is presented by EQT and will feature Pirates World Series Champions, Steve Blass 1971 and Grant Jackson 1979, along with Randy Grossman, a Steelers Superbowl Champ from 1974, 1975, 1978 and 1979. The fundraiser benefits HAVIN, Armstrong County Community Action Agency and Armstrong County Habitat for Humanity. Each group retains 100% of the proceeds from each ticket they sell. To request tickets that will benefit HAVIN or for more information please call their office at 724-543-1180.

Ms. Bowman also announced that HAVIN is selling chances to win 8 tickets, a parking pass and $250 cash to the Steelers vs. St. Louis Rams on December 24th at 1:00 pm. Tickets are $10.00 and the winner is based on the PA lottery evening number of November 28th.

Commissioner Kirkpatrick, HAVIN's Director JoEllen Bowman,

For Immediate Release