



ARAPAHOE COUNTY

Proclamation

A PROCLAMATION DECLARING OCTOBER 2024 AS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, one in three women will experience domestic violence during her lifetime; one in every four women will experience sexual assault in her lifetime; and one in seven men have been the victim of severe physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime; and,

WHEREAS, approximately 15.5 million children are exposed to domestic violence every year; and 7 million children live in families in which severe intimate partner violence has occurred; and,

WHEREAS, domestic violence incidents increased by 8.1% nationwide during the COVID pandemic; and,

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a serious crime that affects people of all races, ages, gender, and income levels; and,

WHEREAS, the crimes of domestic and sexual violence violate an individual's privacy, dignity, security, and humanity due to the systematic use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological, and economic control and/or abuse; and,

WHEREAS, victims of violence should have access to medical and legal services, counseling, emergency and transitional housing, and other supportive services so that they can safely escape the cycle of abuse especially during this current public health crisis; and,

WHEREAS, we encourage domestic and sexual violence victims and their families to seek assistance from appropriate victims' services organizations such as the dedicated systems and nonprofit based victim advocates in Arapahoe County; and,

WHEREAS, Arapahoe County offers numerous resources, including personalized safety plans, helpful things to do or say to help someone you know, tips for accessing resources and more. Arapahoe County, state coalitions, national organizations, and other agencies are committed to increasing public awareness of domestic and sexual violence and its prevalence, and to eliminating it through prevention and education; and,

WHEREAS, important partnerships have been formed among criminal and juvenile justice agencies, healthcare providers, allied professionals, and victim services to assist victims of domestic and sexual violence and their families; and,

WHEREAS, Arapahoe County, Colorado, has a moral obligation to prevent domestic violence and provide resources and support to those affected, and

NOW, THEREFORE, The Arapahoe County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim October 2024 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month and encourage all people to join us in this observance and learn more about preventing domestic violence in Arapahoe County.

Commissioner Carrie Warren-Gully
Chair of the Board

Commissioner Jessica Campbell-Swanson

Commissioner Leslie Summey

Commissioner Jeff Baker
Chair Pro Tem

Commissioner Bill L. Holen