

RESOLUTION NO. RS2018-1433

A resolution recognizing October 2018 as Domestic Violence Awareness month in Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee.

WHEREAS, domestic violence impacts countless Nashville residents, including children and adults, without regard to age, race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, or economic status; and

WHEREAS, nationally, 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men have been victims of some form of physical violence by an intimate partner within their lifetime; and 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men have been victims of severe physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, on average, nearly 20 people per minute are physically abused by an intimate partner in the United States, which equates to more than 10 million women and men; and

WHEREAS, 1 in 7 women and 1 in 18 men have been stalked by an intimate partner during their lifetime to the point in which they felt very fearful or believed that they or someone close to them would be harmed or killed; and

WHEREAS, on a typical day, there are more than 200,000 phone calls placed to domestic violence hotlines nationwide; and

WHEREAS, the presence of a gun in a domestic violence situation increases the risk of homicide by 500 percent; and

WHEREAS, women between the ages of 18 to 24 are most commonly abused by an intimate partner; and

WHEREAS, 19 percent of domestic violence involves a weapon; and

WHEREAS, domestic victimization is correlated with a higher rate of depression and suicidal behavior; and

WHEREAS, only 34 percent of people who are injured by intimate partners receive medical care for their injuries; and

WHEREAS, Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) evolved from the "Day of Unity" held in October 1981 and conceived by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence; and

WHEREAS, Domestic Violence Awareness Month is a way to connect and unite individuals and organizations working on domestic violence issues and raise awareness for those issues; and

WHEREAS, since opening in the Fall of 2014, the Office of Family Safety's Jean Crowe Advocacy Center has seen a 72% increase in the number of domestic violence victims that utilize the Center's crisis intervention and advocacy services; and

WHEREAS, Metropolitan Government continues to invest financial and personnel resources in efforts to increase domestic violence victim safety and offender accountability; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting and proper that the Metropolitan Council recognizes October 2018 as Domestic Violence Awareness month and urges all citizens of Nashville to support local efforts to assist victims of these crimes in finding the safety, help and healing they need.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY:

Section 1. The Metropolitan Council hereby goes on record as recognizing October 2018 as Domestic Violence Awareness month in Nashville and Davidson County, Tennessee.

Section 2. This Resolution shall take effect from and after its adoption, the welfare of The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County requiring it.

INTRODUCED BY:

Sharon W. Hurt

Kathleen Murphy

Mina Johnson

Nancy VanReece

Mary Carolyn Roberts
Members of Council