



Proclaiming

October 2024

## Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Ventura County

**Whereas**, October is annually recognized as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month; and

**Whereas**, approximately 43% of California women and 42% of California men experience physical intimate partner violence in their lifetimes; and

**Whereas**, domestic violence affects people of all genders, sexual orientations, ages, racial, ethnic, cultural, social, religious, and economic groups in the United States and here in California; and

**Whereas**, the marginalization of certain groups in society, including undocumented individuals, transgender individuals, and people living with disabilities, increases their vulnerability to domestic violence; and

**Whereas**, domestic violence is the third leading cause of homelessness among families in the United States; and

**Whereas**, California has higher rates of domestic violence experienced by both men and women when compared to the national average; and

**Whereas**, children exposed to domestic violence can experience long-term consequences including difficulty at school, substance abuse, behavioral problems in adolescence, and serious adult health problems; and

**Whereas**, domestic violence programs in California provide essential, lifesaving services for survivors, their children, and communities; and

**Whereas**, although progress has been made toward preventing and ending domestic violence and providing support to survivors and their families, important work remains to be done; and

**Whereas**, policymakers and communities must work together to transform the conditions that cause domestic violence and support survivor-centered solutions; and

**Whereas**, there is a need to provide education, awareness and understanding of domestic violence and its causes; and

**Whereas**, there is a need to support and amplify prevention programs and community-based strategies to create healthy environments and decrease the likelihood of perpetration, thereby stopping domestic violence from occurring in the first place; and

**Whereas**, domestic violence has a significant economic impact in California, with a recent report from the University of California, San Diego and Tulane University calculating that, in 2022, the total cost of domestic violence to the state of California was \$73.7 billion (about \$230 per person in the US). Domestic violence imposes significant tolls not just in terms of individual lives, but also in terms of health care, lost wages, policing, and the criminal justice system; and

**Whereas**, all survivors deserve access to culturally responsive programs and services to increase their safety and self-sufficiency; and

**Whereas**, Ventura County recognizes the vital role that all Californians can play in preventing and one day ending domestic violence.

**Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved**, in recognition of the important work done by local domestic violence programs; the Ventura County Board of Supervisors does hereby proclaim the month of October to be recognized as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Ventura County.

Presented on this 29<sup>th</sup> day of October 2024

  
Matt LaVergne, Supervisor 1st District

  
Chair of the Board of Supervisors  
Kelly Long, Supervisor 3rd District

  
Jeff Gorell, Supervisor 2<sup>nd</sup> District

  
Janice S. Parvin, Supervisor 4th District

  
Vianey Lopez, Supervisor 5th District