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TO: The Honorable Detroit City Council

FROM: David Whitaker, Director
Legislative Policy Division Staff



DATE: September 30, 2025

RE: **RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING OCTOBER AS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

Council Member Angela Whitfield-Calloway requested the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) to produce a resolution declaring October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Please reach out to our office if you require any further assistance.

COUNCIL MEMBER ANGELA WHITFIELD-CALLOWAY

RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING OCTOBER AS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS;** Domestic and family violence affects people of all ages as well as all racial, ethnic, gender, economic, and religious backgrounds; and
- WHEREAS;** Domestic and family violence includes a range of abuse, including economic, physical, sexual, emotional, and psychological, toward children, adults, and elders;¹ and
- WHEREAS;** Unfortunately, exposure to forms of family and domestic violence can often lead interrelated forms of violence and “cycles of abuse” that children carry into future relationships;² and
- WHEREAS;** An average of 24 people per minute are victims of rape, physical violence or stalking by an intimate partner in the United States, affecting more than 12 million women and men each year;³ and
- WHEREAS;** According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), about 41% of women and 26% of men experienced sexual violence, physical violence, or stalking by an intimate partner during their lifetime and reported a related impact;⁴ and
- WHEREAS;** Domestic violence poses a disproportionate threat to women, where about 1 in 5 homicide victims are killed by an intimate partner and over half of female homicide victims are killed by a current or former male intimate partner;⁵ and
- WHEREAS;** Survivors can experience a wide range of physical and mental health outcomes including depression and post-traumatic stress disorder symptoms and are at a higher risk for engaging in behaviors that cause additional negative health outcomes in the future;⁶ and
- WHEREAS;** As a community, we are all responsible for supporting survivors of domestic violence in whatever way we can, which includes learning to recognize the signs of domestic violence and ensuring that resources and protection are readily available; and
- WHEREAS;** The City of Detroit is committed to honoring the memories of those who were lost to domestic violence homicide and to supporting those currently suffering from domestic abuse by working to end the cycle of violence through awareness, education, training, and violence prevention;

¹ <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK499891/>

² *Id.*

³ <https://www.thehotline.org/stakeholders/domestic-violence-statistics/>;

Black, M.C., Basile, K.C., Breiding, M.J., Smith, S.G., Walters, M.L., Merrick, M.T., Chen, J., & Stevens, M.R. (2011). The National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS): 2010 Summary Report. Atlanta, GA: National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

⁴ <https://www.cdc.gov/intimate-partner-violence/about/index.html>

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ *Id.*

WHEREAS; Anyone currently suffering from domestic violence can reach out to the Detroit Police Victim's Assistance Program at (313) 833-1660; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED; That the Detroit City Council hereby recognizes the month of October as domestic violence awareness month; **NOW BE IT FINALLY**

RESOLVED; That the Detroit City Clerk's Office provide a copy of this resolution to the Detroit Health Department, All Things Women Inc., Alternatives for Girls, First Step Detroit, Women in Touch, YWCA Interim House Metro Detroit, Avalon Healing Center, Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries, Coalition on Temporary Shelter, Sisters Against Abuse Society, and the A Starrs Initiative.