



STATE OF NEW JERSEY
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, domestic violence or intimate partner violence is widespread and affects nearly 10 million Americans each year; and

WHEREAS, this includes sexual violence, stalking, physical violence and psychological aggression; and

WHEREAS, according to statistics, one in four women and one in nine men in America are victims; and

WHEREAS, statistics also show that many of these experiences often happen before the age of 18; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a serious crime that affects people of all ages, races, genders and socio-economic status; and

WHEREAS, children that grow up in violent homes are believed to be abused and neglected at a rate higher than the national average; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the psychological and emotional toll, domestic violence costs the nation billions of dollars annually in medical expenses, police and court costs, shelters, foster care, sick leave, absenteeism and overall non-productivity; and

WHEREAS, only awareness and a coordinated community effort will shine a light on and put a stop to this criminal behavior; and

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey is committed to the safety and security of all its residents and to prosecuting perpetrators of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Children and Families' Division on Women works collaboratively with providers statewide to provide education, awareness and services to survivors of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, services for survivors, victims and their families include emergency shelters, 24-hour hotlines, counseling, children's services; and

WHEREAS, supports and protections such as financial assistance, housing placement, address confidentiality and legal advocacy are also available; and

WHEREAS, Domestic Violence Awareness Month provides an excellent opportunity for residents to learn more about preventing domestic violence and to show support for the numerous organizations and individuals that provide critical advocacy, services and assistance to victims and survivors;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Philip D. Murphy, Governor of the State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim:

OCTOBER 2020

AS

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

in New Jersey.



GIVEN, under my hand and the Great Seal of the State of New Jersey, this twenty-ninth of September in the year two thousand twenty, the two hundred forty-fifth year of the Independence of the United States.

Lt. GOVERNOR

GOVERNOR