State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH
2020

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, domestic violence, which can include physical, mental, sexual, emotional, and financial abuse, is a means of intimidation and violence to influence and control a partner involved in an intimate relationship; and

WHEREAS, 1 in 4 women and nearly 1 in 10 men in the United States have experienced rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner and reported at least one impact related to these or other violent behavior in their relationship; and

WHEREAS, intimate partner violence accounts for 15 percent of all violent crime; in 2018 the North Carolina Department of Public Safety reported 103 domestic violence related homicides in North Carolina; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a serious public health problem that results in billions of dollars spent annually in medical, mental health, and lost work productivity costs; and

WHEREAS, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, domestic violence survivors have experienced increased isolation from support services, reduced capacity of crisis centers, travel restrictions, virtual court proceedings, increased symptoms of mental health conditions, and financial stress; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence will likely increase during and after the COVID-19 pandemic due to limited protections, displacement, and/or the need to rely on abusers for physical and financial survival; domestic violence survivors of color, including those in rural areas, those of low socioeconomic status, those who are immigrants, and those who are members of the LGBTQ+ community will be disproportionately affected by these conditions; and

WHEREAS, the State of North Carolina recognizes the significant impact domestic violence has on North Carolina individuals, families, children, schools, and workplaces, and in our military and veteran communities; and

WHEREAS, by working together, we can raise awareness and break the cycle of violence in order to build communities that are safe for all;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October, 2020, as “DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH” in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this twenty-ninth day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fifth.

[Signature]
Roy Cooper
Governor