

CITY COUNCIL

The City of Orange Township, New Jersey

DATE September 19, 2023

NUMBER 361-2023

TITLE: **A RESOLUTION NAMING OCTOBER 2023 AS NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH IN THE CITY OF ORANGE TOWNSHIP. (Sponsored by Councilmember-At-Large Adrienne Wooten)**

WHEREAS, Domestic violence impacts women, men, and children of every age, background, and belief; and

WHEREAS, nearly 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men in the United States have suffered severe physical violence by an intimate partner; and

WHEREAS, victims are deprived of their autonomy, liberty, and security, and face tremendous threats to their health and safety; and

WHEREAS, during National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we reaffirm our dedication to forging an America where no one suffers the hurt and hardship that domestic violence causes -- and we recommit to doing everything in our power to uphold the basic human right to be free from violence and abuse; and

WHEREAS, while physical marks may often be the most obvious signs of the harm caused by domestic violence, the true extent of the pain goes much deeper; and

WHEREAS, victims not only face abuse, but often find themselves left with significant financial insecurity; and

WHEREAS, children who witness domestic violence often experience lifelong trauma; and

WHEREAS, these heinous acts go against all we know to be humane and decent, and they insult our most fundamental ideals; and


WHEREAS, we all have a responsibility to try to end this grave problem; and

WHEREAS, prior to the passage of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), many did not view domestic violence as a serious offense, and victims often had nowhere to turn for support; and

WHEREAS, VAWA significantly transformed our Nation -- it enhanced the criminal justice response to violence against women and expanded survivors' access to immediate assistance and long-term resources to rebuild their lives; and

WHEREAS, the Family Violence Prevention and Services Act is another important piece of legislation that improved our public health response to domestic violence and increased the availability of critical services for victims.

WHEREAS, safeguarding and opening doors of opportunity for every citizen of the City of Orange Township will remain a driving focus for our country -- and we know that crimes like domestic violence inhibit our towns from reaching its fullest potential; and


Adrienne Wooten

WHEREAS, this month, let us once again pledge our unwavering support to those in need and recognize the advocates, victim service providers, and organizations who work tirelessly to extend hope and healing to survivors and victims' every day; and

WHEREAS, I encourage all people in need of assistance to call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE or visit www.TheHotline.org.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipal Council of the City of Orange Township do hereby proclaim October 2023 as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. We call on all citizens to speak out against domestic violence and support local efforts to assist victims of these crimes in finding the help and healing they need.

Adopted: September 19, 2023

Joyce L. Lanier
City Clerk

Tency A. Eason
Council President