



# Proclamation



## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

**WHEREAS**, domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behavior in a relationship that is used by one partner to gain or maintain control over another intimate partner; it includes not only physical abuse, but also mental abuse, emotional abuse, financial abuse, stalking and sexual abuse; and

**WHEREAS**, according to a 2015 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Data Brief, 25% of women and over 10% men in the United States have experienced, and reported, physical violence, sexual violence and/or stalking by an intimate partner during their lifetime; when estimates of unreported crimes are included, this jumps to 36% of women and 33% of men; and

**WHEREAS**, domestic violence happens in every community and affects people of all genders and ages; and

**WHEREAS**, the impacts of domestic violence affect individuals, families, communities, and society as a whole; the scars, both physical and psychological, can last a lifetime, and

**WHEREAS**, in October 1981, the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence held a “Day of Unity” to connect people across the United States who were working to stop violence against women and children; this grew into Domestic Violence Awareness month, first observed in 1987, designated by Congress in 1989 with the passage of Public Law 101-112, and observed annually since then; and

**WHEREAS**, organizations such as Compass Center for Women and Families provide vital services to victims domestic violence in Carrboro and the surrounding areas; and

**WHEREAS**, this month, we commit to standing with survivors of domestic violence, and to doing our utmost to extend hope and healing to all who need it.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor of the Town of Carrboro, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim **October 2019 as “DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH”** in the Town of Carrboro. I encourage residents to show support for victims and survivors of domestic violence, and to work toward a future when all people can feel safe in their relationships and their homes.

This the 1<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2019.



Lydia E. Lavelle, Mayor