

## CITY OF BAYARD PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, the crime of domestic violence violates an individual's privacy, dignity, security, and humanity due to the systematic use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological, and economic control. Domestic violence and intimate partner violence can have life-long consequences that harm the core of the human spirit and jeopardize the future wellbeing of our communities; and

**WHEREAS**, in The City of Bayard, adults and children continue to be victims of domestic violence each year. El Refugio served a total of 447 women, men, and children's victims for the period of July 1, 2022, to June 30, 2023. 126 offenders were ordered into the Domestic Violence Offender Treatment Program. 3563 emergency shelter nights were provided, 10,230 meals were served, and 41 individuals transitioned into permanent housing. On average, 20 people per minute are victims of physical violence by an intimate partner in the United States. This equates to more than 10 million women, men, and children for one year; and

**WHEREAS**, although progress has been made toward preventing domestic violence and providing support to survivors and their families, important work remains to be done, and Domestic Violence Awareness Month provides an opportunity for citizens to learn about how one can come together to make a difference in a victim's life by being supportive, being a strong voice against domestic violence and sending a "**no tolerance**" message to the community and most importantly, educating our legislators.; and

**WHEREAS**, Domestic Violence Awareness Month marks a time to mourn those who have lost their lives at the hands of someone they loved, a time to celebrate those who have survived, and a time to connect and form strong partnerships with El Refugio, Inc., and other community leaders; and

**WHEREAS**, The City of Bayard has a moral obligation to help prevent domestic violence, address its brutal and destructive effects by making domestic violence a local priority, and

**WHEREAS**, Domestic Violence Awareness Month marks a time to mourn those who have lost their lives at the hands of someone they loved, a time to celebrate those who have survived, and a time to connect and form strong partnerships with El Refugio, Inc., and other community leaders; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, we hereby proclaim the month of October 2023 to be "**Domestic Violence Awareness Month**" in the City of Bayard, New Mexico. We call upon all citizens, law enforcement, community organizations, health officials, schools, and our legal system to speak out against domestic violence and actively support local efforts in The City of Bayard to assist survivors to be safe and live their lives free from violence, to hold abusers and systems accountable, and return our community to ways of respect, honor, love, and compassion.

### **"Domestic Violence Awareness Month"**

The Bayard City Council urges all Bayard residents to become involved in efforts to prevent and respond to domestic violence and recognize the impact of domestic violence in our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and seal of The City of Bayard to be affixed in Bayard, New Mexico this 10<sup>th</sup> day of October 2023.

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Chone Fierro, Mayor

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Eloy Medina, Mayor Pro-Tem

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Jose Diaz, Councilor

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Frances Gonzales, Councilor

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Eloy Gonzales, Councilor

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Gabriel Ramos, Clerk/Treasurer