

PROCLAMATION

Whereas, the city of Diamondhead shares a critical concern for victims of domestic violence and a desire to support their needs for justice and healing; and

Whereas, domestic violence affects both women and men of every race, religion, culture and status – people in poverty and those of affluence alike. It affects 1.3 million women per year with an incident occurring every 18 seconds. As many as 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men have been physically assaulted by a partner at some point in their lives; and

Whereas, the crime of domestic violence violates the dignity, security, privacy, and safety of members of our community, in the form of physical, emotional, sexual, and economic abuse; and

Whereas, intimate partner violence costs us in excess of \$5.8 billion nationally each year, \$4.1 billion of which is for direct medical and mental health services and has an economic impact from lost productivity amounting to \$1.8 billion for American businesses; and

Whereas, in 2020 the Gulf Coast Center for Nonviolence provided emergency shelter and support services for 1,384 victims of domestic violence and received 11,700 calls to its crisis hotline, reflecting the severity of this problem within the lower six counties of Mississippi; and

Whereas, advocates, professionals, volunteers, and community members concerned with domestic violence will devote the month of October to raising public awareness of the crisis of domestic abuse, its causes, effects, interventions, and prevention.

Now Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Mayor and Council of the City of Diamondhead, Mississippi does hereby proclaim the month of October 2021 as:

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

And reaffirm our commitment to ending domestic violence within our community.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, we have hereunto affixed the seal of the City of Diamondhead on this, the 5th day of October 2021.

(SEAL)

Mayor Nancy Depreo

Attest: Jeannie Klein, City Clerk