



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Colorado Criminal Code defines domestic violence means an act or threatened act of violence upon a person with whom has been involved in an intimate relationship and any crime against this person, their property, or any municipal ordinance violation against a person and property when used as a method of coercion, control, punishment, intimidation, or revenge; and

WHEREAS, nationally 1 in 2 women and 2 in 5 men have been victims of severe physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetimes; 15.5 million children are exposed to intimate partner violence each year, and 90% are eyewitnesses to this violence; domestic violence is a leading causes of homelessness for women and children; domestic violence rose by 8% in 2025; and

WHEREAS, in Fort Collins, police handle 3 to 5 domestic violence calls every day; up to 1,800 per year. In Colorado, domestic violence related fatalities have risen 24% since 2024; shelters are experiencing increased need in space; violence has become more extreme; eighty percent of victims are female and eighty-three percent of perpetrators are men, however these statistics do fail to represent our LGBTQ2+ and Black, Indigenous, and other people of color who often face additional barriers to safety and experience domestic violence at disproportionately higher rates; and

WHEREAS, in and around Fort Collins, Crossroads Safehouse & Services (since 1980) and the Zonta Club of Fort Collins (since 1997), and local human and social services agencies, together with volunteers, provide assistance and services to victims and their children including lifesaving crisis intervention, emergency shelter, safety planning, advocacy and support; and

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Collins recognizes multiple efforts by our community partners to bring awareness to and serve our community to support victims of domestic violence. These annual efforts are Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October, and Zonta Says NO to Violence - 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence from November 25 to December 10.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Emily Francis, Mayor of the City of Fort Collins, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2026 as

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

and urge residents to join Zonta Club of Fort Collins, the Women and Gender Equity Advisory Board, and Crossroads Safehouse & Services in support of efforts to end gender-based violence and to eliminate the detrimental consequences it has on the well-being of our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the City of Fort Collins this 20th day of October, 2026.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk