



Domestic Violence Awareness Month

WHEREAS, Colorado Revised Statute 18-6-800 defines domestic violence as “an act or threatened act of violence upon a person with whom the actor is or has been in an intimate relationship.” Domestic violence includes physical, verbal, sexual, economic, and other forms of abuse committed by a person to injure, coerce, control, punish, intimidate, and/or exercise power over their current or former spouse, significant other, dating partner, or co-parent; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a violent crime that can affect any person regardless of age, gender, socio-economic status, race, religion, nationality, or sexual orientation; it accounts for 15 percent of all crimes reported to law enforcement and is the leading cause of death for pregnant women in the United States; and

WHEREAS, children who live with and witness domestic violence at home are far more likely to have long-term physical and mental health problems, receive lower grades in school, engage in risky, self-destructive behavior, and become future victims and perpetrators of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, victims of domestic violence face numerous personal, social, societal and legal obstacles such as conflicting feelings about their abuser, cultural or religious beliefs that justify staying in the relationship, lack of validation or support system, expensive costs of living, fear of escalated abuse and retaliation if they try to leave, lack of physical evidence to prosecute, and more; and

WHEREAS, A Woman’s Place can help domestic violence victims and their children through 24/7 crisis line support, safe shelter, and confidential services completely free of charge. In 2021, they answered 949 crisis calls and provided shelter, case management, legal advocacy, counseling, and other services to 402 people. Their mission is to shelter and help empower victims/survivors of domestic violence to become safe, secure, and self-reliant; and through education and collaboration to mobilize our community to help prevent domestic violence.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John Gates, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Greeley, do hereby proclaim the month of October, 2022, as Domestic Violence Awareness Month, and reaffirm City Council’s commitment to support victims/survivors and help prevent domestic violence in this community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Greeley, Colorado, this 4th day of October, 2022.

John Gates
Mayor