Proclamation
Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2026

WHEREAS, the crime of domestic violence violates an individual's privacy and dignity, security and humanity, due to systematic use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological and economic control and/or abuse including abuse to children and the elderly; and

WHEREAS, the problems of domestic violence are not confined to any group or groups of people, but cut across all economic, racial and societal barriers, and are supported by societal indifferences; and

WHEREAS, the impact of domestic violence is wide ranging, directly effecting individuals and society as a whole, here in this community Thriving Hearts Crisis Center answered **1,675 crisis calls and provided 7,513 services to survivors from September 2025 to August 2026** and

WHEREAS, women are not only targets; men, young children and the elderly also are victims, and sadly, emotional scars are often permanent, and domestic violence costs United States' companies at least $3.5 billion in lost work time, increased health care costs, higher turnover, and lower productivity; and

WHEREAS, it is battered women themselves who have been in the forefront of efforts to bring peace and equality to the home.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gary Gilbert, Mayor, of the City of LaVernia, Texas, do hereby proclaim the month of October as ***"Domestic Violence Awareness Month"*** and call all citizens, community agencies, religious organizations, medical facilities and businesses to increase their participation in our effort to prevent domestic violence, thereby strengthening the communities in which we live.

Presented this 8th Day of October 2026

_____
Gary Gilbert, Mayor

Attest:

_____
Madison Farrow, City Secretary