



City of Mercer Island, Washington *Proclamation*

WHEREAS, each year in October, advocates, survivors, and supporters recognize October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

More prevalent than most perceive it to be, domestic violence will be experienced by one in four women and one in seven men in their lifetimes. Anyone, regardless of gender, race, sexual identity or orientation, or socio-economic status, can be a victim of domestic violence. The impact of domestic violence is felt not only by individuals and families, but by communities and the nation as a whole.

The 2024 Domestic Violence Awareness Month campaign theme, **Heal, Hold, & Center**, highlights the many cultural ways to **heal** from violence and oppression, commits to **holding** space for survivors, and aims to **center** those most marginalized in all efforts to end domestic violence.

The City's Youth and Family Services department provides services to help mitigate the devastating impact of domestic violence on survivors, children, families, and the community. Education, prevention, and intervention efforts are imperative to not only protect victims, but also to increase public awareness of the severity and extent of domestic violence.

Mercer Island joins with others across the state of Washington and nation in supporting domestic violence victims and survivors, and the advocates and organizations that serve them.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Salim Nice, Mayor of the City of Mercer Island, do hereby proclaim October 2024 as

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

and call upon the people of Mercer Island to speak out against domestic violence and support efforts to prevent and end domestic abuse.

APPROVED, this 1st day of October 2024

Mayor Salim Nice

Proclamation No. 347



**CITY OF MERCER ISLAND
YOUTH & FAMILY SERVICES**