

PROCLAMATION
Recognizing October 2026 as
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, October is annually recognized as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month;

WHEREAS, progress continues to be made toward violence prevention, domestic and intimate partner violence remains a serious issue affecting *all* people regardless of age, race, ethnicity, sex, gender, socioeconomic status, literacy, sexuality, ability, religion, culture, and immigration status;

WHEREAS, domestic and intimate partner violence violates an individual's dignity, security, and humanity with the systematic use of control through physical, emotional, sexual, psychological, and economic abuse;

WHEREAS, children exposed to domestic violence can experience long-term consequences including difficulty at school, substance abuse, behavioral problems in adolescence, and serious adult health problems;

WHEREAS, Humboldt Domestic Violence Services (HDVS) has been serving Humboldt County since 1977 to continuously support all those living with or escaping abuse;

WHEREAS, all survivors deserve access to culturally responsive prevention programs and services to increase their safety and self-sufficiency. HDVS enlists a diverse array of allies, agencies, and community members in supporting survivors of domestic and intimate partner violence;

WHEREAS, only together can we change the health and safety of our community by challenging the societal norms that perpetuate violence;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the City Council of the City of Rio Dell recognizes the month of **October 2026** to be **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**. The Council celebrates HDVS's 49 years of effort to improve community safety by breaking the cycle of domestic and intimate partner violence.

Dated: October 5, 2026

Debra L. Garness
Mayor