



City of Rochelle, Illinois
Office of the Mayor
Proclamation

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a pervasive public health and safety issue that affects individuals of all ages, genders, races, and economic status, causing lasting harm to survivors, families, and the community; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence takes many forms, including Physical Abuse, Sexual Abuse, Emotional Abuse, and Financial Abuse; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men will experience severe physical violence by an intimate partner in their lifetime, and nearly half of all women and men have experienced at least one form of psychological aggression by an intimate partner; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence remains one of the most underreported crimes, leaving many survivors without the support, safety, and justice they deserve; and

WHEREAS, HOPE of Ogle County has been a critical lifeline for survivors in our community by providing emergency shelter, counseling, legal advocacy, prevention education, and compassionate crisis intervention; and

WHEREAS, residents of Rochelle are encouraged to recognize the signs of abuse, and know that help is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week by calling HOPE of Ogle County to speak with trained professional staff who can provide safety planning, resources, and confidential assistance; and

WHEREAS, the purple ribbon serves as a symbol of courage for survivors, a reminder of lives lost to abuse, and the community's commitment to ending domestic violence;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John Bearrows, Mayor of the City of Rochelle, do hereby proclaim **October** as **Domestic Violence Awareness Month**, and urge all citizens to join HOPE of Ogle County and support survivors, and work together to end all forms of domestic abuse.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Rochelle to be affixed this 22nd of September 2025.

John Bearrows, Mayor

Attest: _____



RoseMary Huéramo, City Clerk