

Proclamation

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS | NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Domestic Violence Awareness Month – October 2024

WHEREAS, NEWS Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse Services is commemorating 43 years of service to survivors of domestic violence in Napa County, having opened the first confidential safe house on October 5, 1981 and providing safety to those escaping abuse ever since; and

WHEREAS, each year since 1989, the United States Congress has proclaimed October as **Domestic Violence Awareness Month**, renewing our Country's commitment to standing against domestic violence and meeting the needs of survivors; and

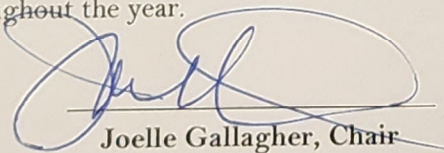
WHEREAS, **Domestic Violence Awareness Month** is about raising awareness and uplifting the needs, voices and experiences of survivors. This year's national campaign of "Heal, Hold & Center" calls on us to reflect on how our community is helping to heal, holding space for, and center the voices of marginalized survivors; and

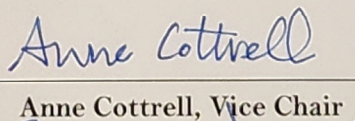
WHEREAS, domestic violence is a public health concern that impacts the well-being and success of individual community members, as well as the community as a whole. Nearly 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men in the U.S. have experienced severe physical violence from an intimate partner during their lifetime, while almost half of U.S. adults report having faced psychological aggression, such as humiliating or controlling behaviors, as reported in the 2022 National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control. The repercussions of domestic violence extend far beyond immediate physical harm; survivors often endure severe emotional distress, leading to increased risks of suicidal thoughts and diminished economic opportunities. Furthermore, children who witness such abuse are not only at risk of experiencing it themselves but may also be manipulated as tools of control within the family, resulting in lasting impacts on their mental health; and

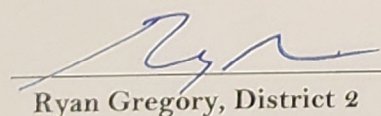
WHEREAS, by observing October as **Domestic Violence Awareness Month** we demonstrate that our community is committed to supporting survivors and working toward the prevention of domestic violence among future generations; and

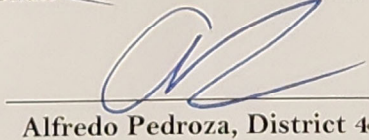
WHEREAS, in Fiscal Year 2023/2024 NEWS provided services to over 1,700 of our Napa County community members, including 24-hour response, assistance with protective orders, safety and shelter, permanent housing, financial aid, support groups and children's services, for issues related to violence in the home.

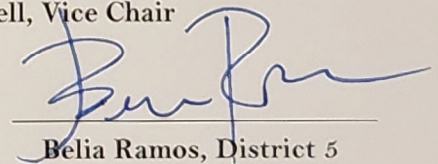
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that this Board of Supervisors, County of Napa, State of California, on this 15th day of October 2024, does hereby recognize **October 2024** as **Domestic Violence Awareness Month** in Napa County, and in doing so, we encourage all members of the community to uplift and support domestic violence survivors and those who serve them during this month and throughout the year.


Joelle Gallagher, Chair


Anne Cottrell, Vice Chair


Ryan Gregory, District 2


Alfredo Pedroza, District 4


Belia Ramos, District 5

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

