

RESOLUTION DECLARING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER AS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS  
MONTH

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a pattern of control in an intimate relationship where one person uses coercion and violence to gain power and control over his or her partner;

WHEREAS, domestic violence includes not only physical abuse, but also mental abuse, financial abuse, isolation, and sexual violence;

WHEREAS, intimate partner violence does not discriminate;

WHEREAS, the national average shows more than three individuals are murdered by an intimate partner in this country every day;

WHEREAS, in 2015, the North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence reported that 72 women, men, and children were murdered in domestic violence-related homicides in our state; with Guilford County reporting 1 domestic violence related death in 2015;

WHEREAS, locally, Family Service of the Piedmont responded to approximately 3,186 crisis line calls in the last fiscal year, and the Greensboro and High Point Police Departments along with the Guilford County Sheriff's Office collectively reported responding to over 18,589 calls for service involving domestic violence;

WHEREAS, the Guilford County Department Health and Human Services Division of Social Services in 2015 received more than 5,884 reports to Child Protective Services and 765 reports of elder abuse and neglect to Aging and Adult Services;

WHEREAS, children who witness domestic violence are more likely to transmit violent behavior from one generation to the next and are more likely to exhibit behavioral and physical health problems;

WHEREAS, in a community partnership, the Guilford County Family Justice Center (FJC) has successfully brought together agencies throughout the County to provide victims with easier access to comprehensive resources in a single location through a coordinated collaborative effort, which has empowered family violence victims to live free from violence and abuse and hold offenders accountable; since its opening in mid-June of 2015 the FJC has served over 6,000 citizens in crisis;

WHEREAS, by working together and promoting awareness in this community we can protect the vulnerable, stop the violence, restore hope, and make a safer community for everyone.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GREENSBORO:

That it does hereby declares the month of October 2016, as "DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH" and urges citizens to increase their awareness and education of this destructive force which deeply affects a large number of families in our State and local community each year, and to become part of the efforts to stop violence in families.