

## RESOLUTION DECLARING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2019 AS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

During National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we reaffirm our dedication to creating a culture of safety and hope in our community where no one suffers the hurt and hardship caused by domestic violence. We recommit to doing everything in our power to uphold the basic human right to live free from violence and abuse and recognize our shared responsibility in ending this pervasive problem.

WHEREAS, domestic violence impacts women, men, and children of every age, background, and belief; and is rooted in a pattern of control in an intimate relationship where one person uses coercion and violence to gain power over his or her partner;

WHEREAS, physical marks and scars are often the most obvious signs of harm caused by domestic violence, however the extent of the pain goes much deeper and can impact one's mental, physical, emotional, and financial health;

WHEREAS, the national average shows that more than three individuals are murdered every day by an intimate partner, and in 2018, the North Carolina Coalition Against Domestic Violence reported that 52 women, men, and children were murdered in domestic violence-related homicides in our state; with Greensboro reporting 0 domestic violence related deaths;

WHEREAS, locally, Family Service of the Piedmont responded to approximately 3,100 crisis line calls in the last fiscal year and the Greensboro Police Department reported over 13,000 calls for service involving domestic and/or sexual violence;

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) in Greensboro has successfully brought together 17 agencies in one place to provide victims with easier access to comprehensive resources through a coordinated collaborative effort. This partnership provides hope and healing to victims of abuse and works diligently to hold offenders accountable;

WHEREAS, since the opening of the Guilford County Family Justice Center in mid-June of 2015, over 27,000 citizens in crisis have been served, and Greensboro has seen an 87% reduction in domestic violence related homicides over the past four years;

WHEREAS, by working together and promoting awareness in this community we can restore hope, stop the violence, and make our community safer for everyone; and

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

That it does hereby declare the month of October 2019, as “DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH” and urges citizens to increase their awareness and education of this destructive force, which deeply affects many families in our State and local community each year, and to become part of the efforts to stop violence in families.