



Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2023

WHEREAS, the crime of domestic violence violates an individual’s privacy and dignity, security, and humanity, due to systematic use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological, and economic control and/or abuse including abuse to children and the elderly; and

WHEREAS, the problems of domestic violence are not confined to any group or groups of people, but cut across all economic, racial, and societal barriers, and are supported by societal indifferences; and

WHEREAS, the impact of domestic violence is wide ranging, directly effecting individuals and society as a whole, here in this community Guadalupe Valley Family Violence Shelter answered **992 crisis calls and provided 6398 services to survivors from September 2022 to July 2023** and

WHEREAS, women are not only targets; men, young children and the elderly also are victims, and sadly, emotional scars are often permanent, and domestic violence costs United States’ companies at least \$3.5 billion in lost work time, increased health care costs, higher turnover, and lower productivity; and

WHEREAS, it is battered women themselves who have been in the forefront of efforts to bring peace and equality to the home.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ralph Gutierrez, Mayor, of the City of Schertz, Texas, do hereby proclaim the month of October as

“Domestic Violence Awareness Month”

and call all citizens, community agencies, religious organizations, medical facilities, and businesses to increase their participation in our effort to prevent domestic violence, thereby strengthening the communities in which we live.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Schertz to be affixed this 10th day of October 2023.

Ralph Gutierrez, Mayor