



## **Domestic Violence Awareness Month October 2024**

**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 Thriving Hearts Crisis Center (Formerly Guadalupe Valley Family Violence Shelter) answered **1025 crisis calls and provided 8431 services to survivors from September 2023 to August 2024**; 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 2024 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, Texas, to be affixed this 15th day of October 2024.

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Ralph Gutierrez, Mayor