PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the crime of domestic violence violates the basic human rights and dignity due to systematic use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological and economic control; and

WHEREAS, teen dating violence involves physical, sexual, verbal, emotional, economic, or other teen behaviors including harassment by texting, email or other forms of social media are committed by a person who is intending to harm, threaten, intimidate, harass, control, isolate, or monitor another person with whom they have or have had a dating relationship, and is a reality for many teenagers, one of which many parents and guardians are unaware; and

WHEREAS, the problems of domestic and teen dating violence are not confined to any particular group or groups of people, but occur across all economic, racial, gender and classes, and are supported when society ignores or tolerates violence at home or in our schools, and

WHEREAS, the impact of domestic violence is wide-ranging, directly affecting individuals and society as a whole, here in this community, throughout the United States and the world, and

WHEREAS, women and men need to work together to bring safety and equality and;

WHEREAS, Hope Alliance is partnering with the Williamson County Domestic Assault Response Team to promote Domestic and Teen Dating Violence Awareness in our local communities, and;

WHEREAS, last year Hope Alliance provided 2,688 Hotline calls. 17,586 Units of Service (from 30-bed Emergency Shelter). A Unit Service is defined as A face-to-face session between client and Staff person for about 1 hour. 7,983 Shelter Nights. 18,316 Units of Service from Counseling Center; and 35,902 Combined total Units of Services provided from all funding services and both the shelter and the counseling, and;

THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Williamson County Commissioners Court designates month of October 2020 as

"Domestic and Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month"

And call upon the people of Williamson County to recognize and support the important work accomplished by all area Law Enforcement agencies, Hope Alliance, the Williamson County District Attorney's Office and County Attorney's Office.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Williamson County, Texas to be affixed this 15th day of September 2020.