

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 cut across all economic, racial, gender and societal barriers, 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, the Williamson County Sheriff's Office, Hope Alliance are 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 a total of 2,663 Hotline calls, provided face-to-face services to over 255 local victims of domestic violence and provided 6,986 sheltered nights of safety; and

WHEREAS, last year Hope Alliance provided these direct services to 913 victims from Williamson County. In addition to these services, Hope Alliance Advocates provided 17 Court Accompaniments for clients. Because of "Stay Home" orders, Hope Alliance added two new services: Counseling by video and crisis chat via website; and

THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Williamson County Commissioners Court designates month of October 2021 as

National 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 and Williamson County Domestic Assault Response Team.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of _____, Texas to be affixed this _____ day of September 2021.