

**Yolo County
Board of Supervisors**

Resolution No. 24-133

Proclaiming October 2024 as National Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Yolo County

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

WHEREAS, domestic violence (also known as intimate partner violence) affects people of all genders, sexual orientations, ages, racial, ethnic, cultural, social, religious, and economic groups in the United States and here in California; and

WHEREAS, children exposed to domestic violence in the home were 15 times more likely to be physically and/or sexually assaulted than the national average, and domestic violence may be the single major precursor to fatalities from child abuse and neglect in the US.; and

WHEREAS, teen victims of physical dating violence are more likely than their non-abused peers to smoke, use drugs, engage in unhealthy diet behaviors, engage in risky sexual behaviors, and attempt or consider suicide; and

WHEREAS, 15.5 million children in the United States live in families in which partner violence occurred at least once in the past year, 7 million children live in families in which severe partner violence occurred and witnessing violence between one's parents or caretakers is the strongest risk factor of transmitting violent behavior from one generation to the next; and

WHEREAS, an average of 24 people per minute are victims of rape, physical violence or stalking by an intimate partner in the United States — more than 12 million women and men over the course of a single year; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence rarely ends at the time of separation from the abuser, in fact, the most dangerous period for a victim is when he or she chooses to leave the abusive relationship. Some reasons why victims stay in an abusive relationship include: threats to harm or take away their children, economic dependency, lack of housing, fear of being fatally harmed by the abuser, and many more valid reasons; and

WHEREAS, there were 103 domestic violence related homicides in California in 2023, of which 74 of the fatalities were female and 29 were male; and

WHEREAS, we must teach the next generation that violence is wrong, implement domestic and dating violence prevention and awareness programs for schools, workplace, and healthcare providers, and make services available to all victims including adolescents and children who witness violence; and

WHEREAS, Yolo County recognizes the vital role that all community members can play in preventing and one day ending domestic violence; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Yolo County Board of Supervisors does hereby proclaim the month of October 2024 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Yolo County; and encourages all Californians to make a commitment to take action, become involved in seeking solutions to domestic violence, provide help to troubled families, and educate the public that domestic violence is more than just a family matter.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 8th day of October, 2024 by the following vote:

AYES: Vixie Sandy, Provenza, Barajas, Villegas, Frerichs.

Lucas Frerichs, Chair
Yolo County Board of Supervisors