

**A PROCLAMATION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE
TOWN OF MAMMOTH LAKES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA,
PROCLAIMING OCTOBER AS
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, although progress has been made toward breaking the cycle of violence and providing support to victims and their families, much work remains to be done; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence programs in California provide essential, lifesaving services for victims and their children fleeing violence; and

WHEREAS, advocates and organizations work on behalf of victims every day. Domestic violence shelters and services, law enforcement officials, health care providers, court systems and legal aid providers, tribal organizations, and others are all an integral part of the effort to end domestic violence and must be recognized and applauded for their work; and

WHEREAS, victims of domestic violence embody incredible strength and resilience; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to increase the public awareness and understanding of domestic violence and the needs of victims; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence affects women, men, and children of all racial, ethnic, cultural, social, religious, and economic groups in the United States and here in California; and

WHEREAS, the marginalization of certain groups in society, including undocumented individuals, transgender individuals, and people living with disabilities, increases their vulnerability to intimate partner violence; and

WHEREAS, according to the American Psychological Association, women with disabilities have a 40% greater risk of intimate partner violence than women without disabilities; and

WHEREAS, American Indian women residing on reservations suffer domestic violence and physical assault at rates 50% higher than women of other races and at least 70% of this violence is committed by persons of another race; and

WHEREAS, there is a need to recognize and understand the complexity of violence as perpetuated within communities and against communities, and the fear of many victims to report to law enforcement; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence has a significant economic impact on women. Throughout the country an estimated eight million days of paid work is lost as the result of intimate partner violence. Domestic violence costs \$8.3 billion in expenses annually: a combination of higher medical costs (\$5.8 billion) and lost productivity (\$2.5 billion); and

WHEREAS, among families domestic violence is the third leading cause of homelessness; and

WHEREAS, all victims deserve access to culturally appropriate programs and services to increase their safety and improve their life situations; and

WHEREAS, approximately 40% of California women experience physical intimate partner violence in their lifetimes; and

WHEREAS, women 18-24 years of age are significantly more likely to be victims of physical intimate partner violence than women in other age groups; and

WHEREAS, on average, nearly 20 people per minute are physically abused by an intimate partner in the United States. During one year, this equates to more than 10 million women and men; and

WHEREAS, on a typical day, there are more than 20,000 phone calls placed to domestic violence hotlines nationwide; and

WHEREAS, the total number of domestic violence-related calls for assistance to law enforcement in 2020 was 160,646; and

WHEREAS, the total number of domestic violence-related calls for assistance involving a firearm in 2020 was 1,974; and

WHEREAS, children exposed to domestic violence can experience long-term consequences including difficulty at school, substance abuse, and serious adult health problems; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes the vital role that all Californians can play in preventing and one day ending domestic violence.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that in recognition of the important work done by Wild Iris and all victims' service providers, the Town Council of the Town of Mammoth Lakes hereby proclaims that the month of October, 2021 is Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the Town of Mammoth Lakes and encourages all residents to observe Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

PROCLAIMED this 20th day of October, 2021.

ATTEST:

BILL SAUSER, Mayor

JAMIE GRAY, Town Clerk