

# State of North Carolina

**ROY COOPER**  
GOVERNOR

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

**2020**

**BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**A PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, domestic violence, which can include physical, mental, sexual, emotional, and financial abuse, is a means of intimidation and violence to influence and control a partner involved in an intimate relationship; and

**WHEREAS**, 1 in 4 women and nearly 1 in 10 men in the United States have experienced rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner and reported at least one impact related to these or other violent behavior in their relationship; and

**WHEREAS**, intimate partner violence accounts for 15 percent of all violent crime; in 2018 the North Carolina Department of Public Safety reported 103 domestic violence related homicides in North Carolina; and

**WHEREAS**, domestic violence is a serious public health problem that results in billions of dollars spent annually in medical, mental health, and lost work productivity costs; and

**WHEREAS**, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, domestic violence survivors have experienced increased isolation from support services, reduced capacity of crisis centers, travel restrictions, virtual court proceedings, increased symptoms of mental health conditions, and financial stress; and

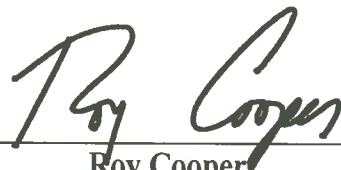
**WHEREAS**, domestic violence will likely increase during and after the COVID-19 pandemic due to limited protections, displacement, and/or the need to rely on abusers for physical and financial survival; domestic violence survivors of color, including those in rural areas, those of low socioeconomic status, those who are immigrants, and those who are members of the LGBTQ+ community will be disproportionately affected by these conditions; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of North Carolina recognizes the significant impact domestic violence has on North Carolina individuals, families, children, schools, and workplaces, and in our military and veteran communities; and

**WHEREAS**, by working together, we can raise awareness and break the cycle of violence in order to build communities that are safe for all;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October, 2020, as “**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**” in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.



  
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Roy Cooper  
Governor

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this twenty-ninth day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fifth.