

State of North Carolina

ROY COOPER

GOVERNOR

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

2021

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, in 2015, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, over 1 in 3 women and 1 in 10 men experienced some form of intimate partner violence, including sexual violence, physical violence, and/or stalking; and

WHEREAS, intimate partner violence accounts for 15 percent of all violent crime in the United States; in 2019-2020, almost 60,000 North Carolinians received domestic violence services according to the NC Council for Women and Youth Involvement; 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, virtual court proceedings, increased symptoms of mental health conditions, and financial stress; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence will likely increase post-pandemic due to limited protections, displacement, and/or the need to rely on abusers for physical and financial survival; domestic violence survivors, 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 safer for all;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ROY COOPER, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October, 2021, as "DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH" in North Carolina, and commend its observance to all citizens.

Governor

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