

# PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship that is used by one partner to gain or maintain power and control over another intimate partner; this behavior can include physical, sexual, emotional, economic, psychological, or technological actions or threats of actions or other patterns of coercive behavior; and

WHEREAS, National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, established in October 1987, helps connect and unite individuals and organizations working on domestic violence issues while also raising awareness for those issues; and

WHEREAS, Thursday, October 19, 2023, is Purple Thursday, a National Day of Action and an opportunity to raise awareness and show commitment to ending domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, 41.4 percent of women and 31.7 percent of men in Washington experience intimate partner physical violence, intimate partner rape and/or intimate partner stalking in their lifetimes; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is directly linked to all forms of violence and, to break the cycle of domestic violence, we must be committed to ending racism, discrimination, and systemic oppression; and

WHEREAS, domestic abuse exists currently in all communities, regardless of race, religion, occupation, educational level, culture, socioeconomic status, or sexual orientation; and

WHEREAS, women of color are often at elevated risks for gender-based violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, and other crimes of coercive control, and experience increased barriers to accessing services; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence disproportionately affects vulnerable populations such as women, children, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, and intersex individuals, and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a public health issue with long term negative effects on both physical health, mortality, and mental health that can negatively affect child and youth development; and

WHEREAS, the presence of a gun in a domestic violence situation increased the risk of homicide by 500 percent in Washington state between 2006 and 2015, and a firearm was used in 56 percent of domestic violence-related homicides; and

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WHEREAS, individuals experiencing homelessness also report higher rates of domestic violence than the general population, and in fact domestic violence precipitates homelessness for many; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seattle invests in trauma-informed strategies to prevent, intervene, and hold offenders accountable, while promoting healing, survivor-centered services, housing, and community support for those impacted by domestic violence, by partnering with 36 organizations to provide services to more than 7,500 survivors and their families each year; and

WHEREAS, #Every1KnowsSome1—the national theme of Domestic Violence Awareness Month 2023—illustrates the importance of public awareness and participation, and a call to the National Domestic Violence Hotline (1-800-799-SAFE) or local King County DV Hopeline (206-737-0242) can help put a person on a path to safety;

*THEREFORE, THE MAYOR AND THE SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL PROCLAIM  
OCTOBER 2023 TO BE*

## **Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Seattle**

*AND RECOGNIZE THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2023, AS*

### **Purple Thursday**

We encourage all Seattle residents to recognize the signs of abuse and coercion, take steps to raise awareness about this issue, and work to make this city a place where domestic violence no longer exists.



Mayor Bruce Harrell



Councilmember Lisa Herbold



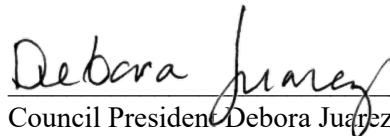
Councilmember Tammy J. Morales



Councilmember Sara Nelson



Councilmember Kshama Sawant



Council President Debora Juarez



Councilmember Andrew J. Lewis



Councilmember Teresa Mosqueda



Councilmember Alex Pedersen



Councilmember Dan Strauss