

## PROCLAMATION DESIGNATING OCTOBER 2018 AS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

**Whereas**, 1 in every 4 women and 1 in every 7 men will experience domestic violence during their lifetime;

Whereas, 2 out of 3 children are exposed to trauma and violence;

Whereas, Lassen Family Services served 293 men, women and children victims of domestic violence in 2017;

Whereas, when a family member is abused, it can have long-term damaging effects on the victim that also leave a mark on family, friends, and the community at large;

**Whereas**, families are indispensable to a stable society, and they should be a place of support to instill responsibility and values in the next generation;

**Whereas**, violence against women and children is a prevalent social ill due to the historical imbalance of power in gender and age; however, domestic violence is widespread and is devastating to society as a whole;

Whereas, the problem of domestic violence is not confined to any group or groups of people, but crosses all economic, racial, gender, educational, religious, and societal barriers, and is sustained by societal indifference;

**Whereas**, the crime of domestic violence violates an individual's privacy, dignity, security, and humanity due to the systematic use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological, and economic control and/or abuse;

Whereas, victims should have help to find the compassion, comfort, and healing they need, and domestic abusers should be punished to the full extent of the law;

Whereas, victims of violence should have access to medical and legal services, counseling, emergency and transitional housing, and other supportive services so that they can escape the cycle of abuse;

Whereas, victims of violence and their families may seek assistance from appropriate victims' services organizations such as Lassen Family Services;

Whereas, it is important to recognize the compassion and dedication of the individuals who provide services to victims of domestic violence and work to increase public understanding of this significant problem;

Whereas, local programs, state coalitions, national organizations, and other agencies nationwide are committed to increasing public awareness of domestic violence and its prevalence, and to eliminating it through prevention and education;

Whereas, important partnerships have been formed among criminal and juvenile justice agencies, healthcare providers, allied professionals, and victim services to assist victims of domestic violence and their families;

Whereas, Lassen Family Services is dedicated to protecting vulnerable members of our community;

**Whereas**, The County recognizes the vital role that Californians can play a role in participating in preventing and one day ending domestic violence;

**NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE PROCLAIMED** that the Lassen County Board of Supervisors does hereby proclaim October 2018 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month and urges all Californians to work towards preventing and one day eliminating domestic violence.

The foregoing Proclamation was duly adopted at a regular meeting of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Lassen, State of California, held in Susanville on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of September 2018.

CHRIS GALLAGHER Chairman of the Board of Supervisors

ATTEST: JULIE BUSTAMANTE Clerk of the Board

BY:\_\_\_\_\_\_ MICHELE YDERRAGA, Deputy Clerk of the Board