

Tity of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County



JOINT PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a serious offense that is a willful and systematic pattern of power and control perpetrated by one intimate partner against another; it affects people of every background and identity, manifesting in various forms of abuse including physical, sexual, verbal, emotional, psychological, financial, technological, stalking, and coercive control; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is prevalent in Mecklenburg County, with over 25,000 domestic violence-related calls for service placed to local law enforcement each year; and

WHEREAS, these documented calls for help represent only a fraction of those in our community who experience the hidden impacts of domestic violence in secrecy and silence. With a national average of one in four women, one in nine men, and one in two transgender and non-binary people reporting experiences of intimate partner violence, we know our Mecklenburg County community is home to a powerful number of survivors; and

WHEREAS, the effects of domestic violence can be long-term and far-reaching, with implications for public health and safety, economic costs, child development, mental wellness, and generational cycles of abuse; and

WHEREAS, our community offers a continuum of care made up of nonprofit, for-profit, public, grassroots, and survivor-led partners to support and empower those impacted by domestic violence as they seek out safety, hope, and healing; and

WHEREAS, communities nationwide recognize Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October, and the enhancement of this awareness month with a dedicated Domestic Violence Survivors Day creates a unique opportunity to recognize, honor, and celebrate the courage of victims and survivors in Mecklenburg County:

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, Vi Alexander Lyles, Mayor of Charlotte, and George Dunlap, Chair of the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim October 2022 and October 15, 2022, respectively, as

"DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH" & "DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SURVIVORS DAY"

in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County and commend its observance to all citizens.

WITNESS OUR HANDS and the official Seals of the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.

Vi Alexander Lyles

Mayor

George Dunlap, Chair

Mecklenburg Board of County

Commissioners