

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - 23

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING OCTOBER 2023 AS NATIONAL
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a serious crime that affects people of all races, ages, income levels, sexual orientations, religions, abilities and sexes; and

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 power and control or abuse; and

WHEREAS, 1 in 3 American women and 1 in 4 American men have experienced some form of physical violence by a partner in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, 15% of homicides in Colorado were committed by an intimate partner with 52% of these fatalities involving couples who were currently or formerly dating and 48% involving couples who are were currently or formerly married; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that the estimated cost of intimate partner violence in the U.S. exceeds \$5.8 billion and over a victim's lifetime was \$103,767 for women and \$23,414 for men; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado Springs Police Department responds to an average of 20,000 domestic violence calls annually. In 2022, 40% of violent crime and crimes against a person in Colorado Springs were domestic violence related; and

WHEREAS, TESSA, El Paso County's only confidential provider of domestic violence shelter, advocacy, support and outreach, provided over 5,000 nights of shelter to 137 new adults and 88 new children in 2022 and over 1,200 calls come through the crisis line each month; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of the City of Colorado Springs have identified domestic violence as a major community health problem. The City of Colorado Springs thanks TESSA for their collaboration with Colorado Springs Police Department for providing support to victims in our community.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
COLORADO SPRINGS:**

Section 1. The City Council recognizes October 2023 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month and urges members of the community to devote the month of October to public education programs on the causes, intervention, and prevention of this tragic epidemic.

Dated at Colorado Springs, Colorado this 10th day of October, 2023.

Council President

ATTEST:

Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk