

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - 21

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING OCTOBER 2021 AS 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 control or abuse; and

WHEREAS, 1 in 3 American women and 1 in 7 American men will experience domestic violence in their lifetime 15% of homicides in Colorado were committed by intimate partners; and

WHEREAS, rates of child abuse and neglect are 5 times higher for children in families with low socioeconomic status compared to children in families with higher socioeconomic status; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that the cost of intimate partner violence in the U.S. 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 16,000 domestic violence calls annually, and in the city of Colorado Springs, 44 domestic violence related homicides have occurred since 2011, accounting for 14% of total homicides in the city during that time frame; in 2020 and through August 31, 2120 there have been 17 domestic violence homicides increasing the rate to 31%; and

WHEREAS, TESSA, El Paso County's local domestic violence shelter and outreach center, provided a total of 8,756 nights of shelter to 115 new adults and 95 new children in fiscal year 2020 and approximately, 1,250 calls come through the crisis line each month; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of El Paso County have identified domestic violence as a major community health problem.

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

Section 1. The City Council recognizes October 2021 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 12th day of October, 2021.

Council President

ATTEST:

Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk