



Staff Report

For City Council Meeting - 10/6/2021

Subject - Visitors - Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation

Synopsis: The City was contacted by The Harbor to request that October 2021 be declared Domestic Violence Awareness Month. A form of proclamation was attached for consideration. In the past, the City has granted funds in support of The Harbor and its advocacy on behalf of survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

Recommendation: The Council read and adopt the enclosed proclamation via signature to show The City's support of Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Legal Analysis: N/A

Financial Analysis: N/A

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the name "Chad", written in a cursive style.

Chad



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION 2021

WHEREAS, the first Domestic Violence Month was observed in October 1987, the same year that saw the initiation of the first national domestic violence toll-free hotline and in 1989 Congress designated October as national Domestic Violence Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a pattern of assaultive and coercive behaviors – including physical, psychological, sexual and economic abuse; social isolation and stalking – that are used to maintain power and control over a person’s intimate partner; and

WHEREAS, the crime of domestic violence violates an individual’s dignity, safety and basic human rights; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is the single largest cause of injury and homicide for women; and

WHEREAS, children exposed to domestic violence experience terror, isolation, guilt, helplessness and grief and have a higher risk of engaging in criminal behavior and substance abuse, and becoming victims of crime; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is the single largest cause of injury and homicide for women; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence impacts the health and well-being of our community; and

WHEREAS, it is incumbent on every citizen to play a role in preventing and ending domestic violence.

NOW, therefore, we the Gearhart City Council Members and Mayor, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2021 to be:

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

in the City of Gearhart and encourage all Gearhart residents to join in this observance.

_____ Mayor

ATTEST:

_____ City Administrator

Fwd: Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation for October 2021

1 message

Paulina Cockrum <councilposition3@cityofgearhart.com>
To: Krysti Ficker <krysti@cityofgearhart.com>
Cc: Chad Sweet <chadsweet@cityofgearhart.com>

Fri, Sep 10, 2021 at 8:10 AM

October City Council meeting agenda item please.
Paulina

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Julia Aikman** <julia@harbornw.org>
Date: Thu, Sep 9, 2021 at 1:29 PM
Subject: Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation for October 2021
To: mayorcockrum@cityofgearhart.com <mayorcockrum@cityofgearhart.com>

Dear Mayor Cockrum,

My name is Julia, and I am the Prevention Program Coordinator at The Harbor in Astoria. I present about Healthy Relationships, Consent, Bystander Intervention in the Clatsop County Public Schools and in the cities in Clatsop County. My goal is to educate the community about the dynamics of Intimate Partner Violence, how to assist a survivor who needs help, how to intervene safely as a bystander when a person sees any form of power based personal violence and how to create a community where healthy relationships are the norm and violence will not be tolerated.

As you know, The Harbor is Clatsop County's certified advocacy center for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault and stalking. The Harbor's mission is to provide advocacy, prevention, and support, while promoting self-determination and hope for survivors. They do this by providing a number of free and confidential services, including: emergency, confidential shelter; assistance with protective orders; hospital and court accompaniment; a 24-hour crisis line; and, DSART (domestic and sexual assault response team) services, which work with law enforcement and health professionals to meet with survivors 24 hours a day for support, resources, and follow-up. Each year, 5% of Clatsop County residents access The Harbor's services.

October is Domestic Violence Action Month. During the month of October, The Harbor will be putting on a number of COVID-safe events to support and honor survivors and educate the public about domestic violence.

Domestic violence is a pattern of behavior that is used to establish power and control over another person through fear and intimidation, often including the threat or use of violence. Some signs of domestic violence include: exerting strict control (e.g., financial, social), emotional abuse (e.g., insulting a partner in front of other people), extreme jealousy, unexplained injuries, and showing fear around a partner. Domestic violence is far more prevalent than most people realize. 1 in 4 women and 1 in 9 men experience violence from their partners in their lifetimes. In Oregon, 37% of women have experienced intimate partner violence (this is higher than the national average).

No one is immune from domestic violence: it occurs across all populations, regardless of gender identity, age, race, sexual orientation, or class. Each year, 12.7 million people are physically abused, raped, or stalked by their partner. That equates to 24 people every minute. We know that acts of domestic violence thrive in silence. That is why we want your help in speaking out about this important issue during Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) was first observed in October 1987. Two years later, in 1989, Congress designated October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Since then, three main focuses for DVAM have persisted: mourning those who have died because of domestic violence, celebrating those who have survived, and working to end the violence.

As leaders in our community, we are hoping you will join us in working toward those goals this October for DVAM. We want to break the silence and stigma by speaking out against domestic violence and show survivors that we stand

with them.

I am writing this email to ask if you would be willing to announce October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month at your meetings and read or record yourself reading the proclamation attached to this email. The Harbor staff is also willing to do a mini presentation about The Harbor as well as read the proclamation.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you for all that you do to support the work of The Harbor and all of the survivors in our community.

Respectfully,

Julia Aikman she/her/hers Why pronouns matter

Prevention Program Coordinator/Lead Sexual Assault Advocate

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PO Box 1342, Astoria, OR 97103

www.harbornw.org

24-hour Crisis Line: (503) 325-5735

24-horas linea de crisis en español 1-855-938-0584



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Paulina Cockrum | Mayor of Gearhart

City of Gearhart

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mayorcockrum@cityofgearhart.com

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Reply Reply to all Forward

 **2021 Domestic Violence Awareness Proclamation.doc**
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