

COUNTY OF HAWAI'I

Proclamation

WHEREAS domestic violence is a serious, widespread, and hidden societal problem that affects 10 million adults in the United States each year, regardless of race, age, and income; and

WHEREAS abuse can have long-term damaging effects on the health and well-being of victims and their families, friends, and communities, and additionally, children who witness and are often targeted in domestic violence become socialized into believing violence and abuse is normal, are at greater risk of perpetuating the cycle of violence; and

WHEREAS rural areas in the County of Hawai'i create additional geographically related challenges for victims seeking help to leave their abusive environments; and

WHEREAS the Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (HSCADV) has advocated for victims and survivors of domestic violence for over 36 years in partnership with its members to create a safer and more peaceful state for Hawai'i families; and

WHEREAS HSCADV is comprised of 29 programs representing 18 organizations from all islands that serve over 2,000 victims of domestic violence each year and invites the community to take a stand against violence that is a public health issue rather than a private matter; and

WHEREAS Domestic Violence Awareness Month provides a coordinated community effort for citizens to learn about preventing domestic violence and to support the numerous organizations and individuals who provide critical advocacy, services, and assistance to victims; and

WHEREAS, the goal is to raise awareness of this problem, rally support and encourage action from every sector of our community that centers on victims and survivors, and to recognize the incredible contributions of our diverse stakeholders committed to ending domestic violence; and

WHEREAS the voices and lived experiences of survivors, the persistence and dedication of advocates, and the solidarity shown from supporters in the community are to be commended, and the work to end domestic violence throughout the state and nation must continue.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Mitchell D. Roth, Mayor of the County of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim **October 2022** as

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

in Hawai'i County and encourage our citizens to raise awareness of this public health issue and support the organizations and individuals who strive to end domestic violence through critical advocacy, education, and victim's assistance services, as we pause to remember those whose lives have been lost to domestic violence.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused The Seal of the County of Hawai'i to be affixed. Done this 1st day of October 2022, in Hilo, Hawai'i.




MITCHELL D. ROTH
MAYOR