## **Domestic Violence Awareness Month**

October 2022

**WHEREAS,** Domestic violence is a pattern of coercive control and abusive behaviors in any intimate or familial relationship that are used to gain and maintain power and control over another.

WHEREAS, Domestic violence can present in many different ways, including: Emotional Abuse, Economic Abuse, Physical Abuse, Using Children, Reproduction Coercion, Isolation, and Sexual Abuse; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is an issue affecting Arizonans in all communities, regardless of age, race, gender, economic status, religion, nationality, or educational background; and

**WHEREAS,** more than 12 million women and men are victims of rape, physical violence or stalking by an intimate partner in the United States every year, averaging 24 people per minute; and

**WHEREAS,** one in four women and one in ten men have experienced contact sexual violence, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner during their lifetime; and

**WHEREAS,** 30 percent of children exposed to intimate partner violence had their first exposure before the age of two, and an additional 26 percent had their first exposure between the ages of two and seven; and

**WHEREAS**, witnessing violence in the home during childhood is an Adverse Childhood Experience, which without proper support may lead to a greater risk of lasting negative effects on health and well-being; and

WHEREAS, victims of domestic violence are more likely to experience long-term mental and physical health concerns including a higher risk of chronic disease, substance abuse, post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, anxiety, and risky behaviors; and

WHEREAS, promoting healthy, respectful, and nonviolent relationships can help reduce the occurrence of intimate partner violence, support survivors, and lessen short and long-term harm on individuals, families, and communities; and

**WHEREAS,** Domestic Violence Awareness Month provides an important opportunity to enhance education, prevention and intervention efforts around domestic violence and support organizations and individuals who provide advocacy efforts, services, and assistance to victims.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I,** Jack Dillenberg, Mayor of the Town of Jerome, Arizona, on behalf of the Town Council, do hereby proclaim October 2022 as:

## **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

and call upon all citizens, parents, governmental agencies, public and private institutions, businesses, hospitals, schools, and colleges in the Town of Jerome to support domestic violence survivors and take a stand against all forms of violence and abuse in relationships.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Town of Jerome, Arizona, to be affixed this 11th day of October, 2022.

Jack Dillenberg, Mayor of the Town of Jerome

Attest:

Brett Klein, Town Manager / Clerk