



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, domestic violence impacts thousands of New Yorkers each year, without regard to age, race, religion, gender identity, sexual orientation, income, or immigration status, and causes significant suffering for adults, children, families, and the communities in which they live and work; and

Whereas, in 2016, nearly 8,600 calls were made to the New York State Domestic and Sexual Violence Hotline; nearly 28,000 of the assaults reported to police agencies outside of New York City were committed by intimate partners, with strangulation – a particularly common form of violence for intimate partners – charged more than 12,000 times in the State; and

Whereas, in 2016, New York State courts report over 310,000 orders of protection were entered in the Domestic Violence Registry; local probation departments added 5,904 new criminal court domestic violence probation cases to their caseloads and experienced a 10% increase in new Family Court cases statewide; an estimated 24% of individuals on parole were identified as having a history of domestic violence; and

Whereas, in 2016, 4,277 homeless New Yorkers were victims of domestic violence; and approximately half of all women who are homeless report that domestic violence was an immediate cause of their homelessness in New York and nationally; and

Whereas, New York State is committed to the provision of transitional and permanent supportive housing for domestic violence survivors and their children and continues to support criminal justice, human services, and healthcare strategies to increase the safety of all domestic violence victims; New York State leads the country by supporting a network of staff at all state agencies and authorities trained to respond to issues of domestic violence and the workplace; and

Whereas, New Yorkers rely on the State's outstanding network of domestic violence programs to provide a range of essential services, including, over the five-year period from 2011 - 2015, the provision of residential services to nearly 75,000 victims and children, and the provision of non-residential services to nearly 213,025 victims and children; and

Whereas, the New York State Domestic Violence Fatality Review team has reviewed 14 cases, to date, in an effort to better understand and respond to deaths resulting from domestic violence; and

Whereas, New York State acknowledges that awareness and education are critical components of prevention and strives to increase the public's knowledge of domestic violence through the dissemination of timely and relevant information on the subject to a wide range of professionals and citizens; and

Whereas, for the tenth year, New York State is promoting awareness of domestic violence by coordinating the state's annual "Shine the Light on Domestic Violence" campaign and conducting outreach, hosting events, producing informational materials, and continually increasing and enhancing awareness through social media; and

Whereas, New Yorkers stand with all Americans in supporting victims of domestic violence and support the worthy goals of this month-long observance, and likewise support the work of public and private entities that join forces and share resources to provide the best coordinated response to domestic violence in communities across this State, sending a clear message to abusers that domestic violence is not tolerated in New York;

Now, Therefore, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim October 2017 as

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

in the Empire State.



G i v e n under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twenty-eighth
day of September in the year two thousand seventeen.

Governor

Secretary to the Governor
Melissa DeRosa