

STRATFORD, CONNECTICUT

By The Honorable **Laura R. Hoydick**, Mayor: a

PROCLAMATION

IN RECOGNITION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS

WHEREAS, Domestic violence affects millions and is prevalent in every community without regard to age, sex, ability, ethnicity, sexual orientation, socioeconomic status, or religion; and

WHEREAS, Domestic violence is a pattern of coercive, controlling behavior that can include physical abuse, emotional or psychological abuse, sexual abuse, or financial abuse that leaves victims feeling scared, confused, dependent, and insecure about their ability to survive on their own, financially or otherwise; and

WHEREAS, beginning in 1981 as a "Day of Unity," the movement to celebrate survivors of domestic violence and to raise awareness about the issue and services available to help victims and survivors has grown into a nationwide month of action, **National Domestic Violence Awareness Month**, that was first declared in 1981; and

WHEREAS, **Domestic Violence Awareness Month** provides an excellent opportunity for citizens to learn more about preventing domestic violence and to show support for the numerous organizations and individuals who provide critical advocacy, services and assistance to victims, including local organizations like Emerge, and the Center for Family Justice which is part of the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence, a membership organization of Connecticut's 18 domestic violence service agencies; and

WHEREAS, in an effort to raise awareness about domestic violence and mark the observance of **Domestic Violence Awareness Month**, the Center for Family Justice annually holds a series of vigils across the six communities it serves; and awareness is raised through events such as Purple Thursday, a national day of action to raise awareness about domestic violence, which will be held on Thursday, October 22, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, the Honorable Laura R. Hoydick, Mayor of Stratford, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Town, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2020, as

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

in the Town of Stratford; and I encourage all citizens to join me in recognizing this special occasion, and urge our residents to work together to eliminate domestic violence from our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Official Seal of the Town of Stratford, this first day of October, in the year of our Lord, two thousand twenty, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-fifth.




Laura R. Hoydick
Mayor

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