



TOWN OF STRATFORD  
**MAYOR LAURA HOYDICK**

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## **MAYOR HOYDICK PROCLAIMS OCTOBER AS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH IN STRATFORD**

STRATFORD – **Mayor Laura R. Hoydick** today issued a proclamation declaring October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the Town of Stratford. The designation coincides with National Domestic Violence Awareness Month which was first observed in October of 1981 as a way to unite advocates and survivors in the effort to end domestic violence.

“Domestic violence, including physical and emotional battery, assault, intimidation, along with patterns of abuse and control, continues to be a threat to families everywhere,” said **Mayor Hoydick**. “While the current pandemic conditions may prevent us from gathering as we ordinarily do every October at Town Hall to recognize the survivors and spread awareness, we must all continue to combat domestic violence in all its forms. This includes looking out for our loved ones, refusing to stay silent, and getting help when it is needed.”

According to the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence (NCADV) 32.9% of Connecticut women and 33.9% of Connecticut men experience intimate partner domestic violence, intimate partner sexual violence, or intimate partner stalking during their lives. Additionally, 1/3 of all criminal court cases involve family violence in the state.

The Mayor has ordered that Town Hall be illuminated in purple during the evening hours throughout the month to recognize victims and survivors of domestic violence, and to remind of the collective work that remains in the effort to end domestic violence.

In consideration of the COVID-19 pandemic, the annual Domestic Violence Vigil held in October at the steps of Town Hall has been moved to an online event by the sponsoring Center for Family Justice. The online event is planned for October 22<sup>nd</sup>, with details coming soon.

Hoydick noted that residents should be aware of the National Domestic Violence Hotline, 1-800-799-SAFE (7233) or website at [www.TheHotline.org](http://www.TheHotline.org), or the state’s Domestic Violence Hotline which will connect you with area services 24 hours a day at 1-888-774-2900. Services are also available through the Connecticut Coalition Against Domestic Violence at [www.ctadv.org](http://www.ctadv.org).

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