

RESOLUTION NO. _____ - 25

A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING OCTOBER 2025 AS NATIONAL
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a serious crime that affects people of all races, ages, income levels, sexual orientations, religions, abilities, and sexes; and

WHEREAS, the crime of domestic violence violates an individual's privacy, dignity, security, and humanity, through the systematic use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological, and economic power, control, or abuse; and

WHEREAS, 1 in 3 American women and 1 in 4 American men have experienced some form of physical violence by a partner in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, in Colorado, approximately 37% of women and 31% of men have experienced physical violence, sexual violence, or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention found that the estimated cost of intimate partner violence in the U.S. exceeds \$5.8 billion and over a victim's lifetime was over \$103,000 for women and over \$23,000 for men; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence fatalities (DVs) account for roughly 10–11% of all homicides in Colorado annually; in 2023 there were 58 domestic violence–related fatalities, among which 30 were victims killed by a current or former intimate partner and 7 were collateral victims (including children or bystanders); and

WHEREAS, many victims never reported prior abuse—nearly 80% of domestic violence fatality cases had no known prior report to law enforcement or system involvement—and few had active protection orders at the time of death, underscoring the hidden nature of domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, The Board of Douglas County Commissioners this year invested in a new building and a \$350,000 contract to provide 35 safehouse beds in Douglas County through a new partnership with TESSA; and

WHEREAS, TESSA, a Douglas County provider of domestic violence shelter, advocacy, support and outreach, provided nearly 7,000 nights of shelter to 462 individuals and their families in 2024 and close to 1,000 calls come through the crisis line each month; and

WHEREAS, The Crisis Center served a total of 220 Douglas County adults and children in 2024, providing emergency shelter, therapy, community-based advocacy, and legal advocacy; additionally, The Crisis Center supported approximately 875 Douglas County residents through its 24-hour crisis line and reached an estimated 1,800 residents through community outreach and education presentations; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Douglas County have identified domestic violence as a major community health problem. Douglas County thanks TESSA and the Crisis Center for their collaboration to provide support to victims in our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY DOUGLAS COUNTY:

Section 1. The County solemnly recognizes October 2025 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month, encourages all citizens to support victims and survivors, to increase awareness, to strengthen prevention efforts, and to support resources in Douglas County and across Colorado for ending domestic violence.

Dated at Castle Rock, Colorado this 14th day of October, 2025.

Abe Laydon, Commissioner, Board Chair

George Teal, Commissioner, Board Vice Chair

Kevin Van Winkle, Commissioner

ATTEST:

XXXXX , Clerk to the Board