



County Commissioners of Charles County

PROCLAMATION 2023-71

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

WHEREAS, the crime of domestic violence violates an individual's humanity, privacy, dignity, and security due to the use of physical, emotional, and sexual abuse, which undermines the social fabric of our entire community; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a serious crime that affects people of all races, ages, gender, and economic levels; and

WHEREAS, the impact of domestic violence is wide ranging. It directly affects the victim, while also shaping the lives of children who must witness aggressive and violent acts amongst loved ones; and

WHEREAS, approximately 15.5 million children of varying socioeconomic backgrounds are exposed to domestic violence every year; and 1 out of every 10 teenagers are physically hurt by someone they are dating; and

WHEREAS, this year's campaign theme, "Somebody You Know", strives to increase connection and engagement by recognizing that domestic violence affects #SomebodyYouKnow whether it be a family member, friend, colleague, or even you; and

WHEREAS, Domestic Violence Awareness Month provides an excellent opportunity for residents 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.

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim the month of OCTOBER 2023, as **Domestic Violence Awareness Month** in Charles County and do hereby encourage residents to attend the Candlelight Vigil and wear purple as a sign of support of working toward the elimination of domestic violence.



COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND

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Attest:

Carol A. DeSoto, Clerk to the Commissioners