

City of Petaluma Proclamation

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH – OCTOBER 2023

WHEREAS, the City of Petaluma recognizes that domestic violence affects *one in four families* in our local community and that nearly 75% of Americans know someone who has been abused, the crime of domestic violence violates an individual’s privacy, dignity, and security, based on the systematic use of emotional, physical, sexual, psychological, and economic control or abuse; and

WHEREAS, established in 1975, YWCA Sonoma County is our community’s singular and vital resource for local residents experiencing violence in the place we should all feel the most safe, inside our own homes. YWCA operates Sonoma County’s **ONLY** confidential safe house shelter and Sonoma County’s **ONLY** 24/7 domestic violence crisis hotline. YWCA’s Counseling Support Services offers trauma-informed individual and support group therapy for victims of trauma and domestic violence including the students at YWCA’s therapeutic preschool serving one of our most vulnerable populations: children ages 3-5 years old; and

WHEREAS, only an informed community effort will end the cycle of violence for local families, members of our community are encouraged to participate in YWCA’s scheduled events and programs to raise much needed funding to support their vision for every family in Sonoma County to live healthy, productive lives and be safe in their own homes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, I, Kevin McDonnell, Mayor of the City of Petaluma, on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby proclaim October 2023 in Petaluma as: **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

Kevin McDonnell, Mayor

Kami Noriega, Interim City Clerk