



City of Bellevue | Proclamation

- Whereas:** Domestic violence is a serious crime that affects one in four women and one in seven men during their lifetime; and
- Whereas:** Domestic violence is widespread and has a devastating impact on survivors, children, families and our community; and
- Whereas:** Domestic violence does not discriminate and crosses all economic, racial, gender, educational, religious and societal barriers, and is sustained by indifference; and
- Whereas:** Ending the cycle of this vicious crime requires the courage of survivors and the support of the larger community; and
- Whereas:** Education, prevention and intervention efforts to end the cycle of domestic violence are imperative to not only protect survivors but also to increase public awareness of the severity and extent of domestic violence.

Now, therefore, I, John Chelminiak, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington, and on behalf of its City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of **October 2019** as:

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACTION MONTH

in Bellevue. I urge all citizens to speak out against domestic violence and support LifeWire's efforts to prevent and end domestic abuse in our communities and increase public awareness of, and action on, this issue.

Ending violence in the home is a national imperative that requires vigilance and dedication from every sector of our society. We must continue to stand alongside LifeWire, advocates, service providers, law enforcement and our criminal justice system as they hold offenders accountable and provide care and support to survivors. But our efforts must extend beyond the criminal justice system to include housing and economic advocacy for survivors. We must work with young people to stop violence before it starts. We must also reach out to friends and loved ones who have suffered from domestic violence, and we must tell them they are not alone. We encourage survivors, their loved ones, and concerned citizens to learn more by calling the LifeWire Helpline at 425-746-1940 or by visiting www.lifewire.org.

This October, let us honor DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ACTION MONTH by promoting peace in our own families, homes and communities. Let us renew our commitment to end domestic violence and its brutal and destructive effects - in every city, every town, and every corner of America.

John Chelminiak, Mayor
City of Bellevue