2025 RES-182

RECOGNIZING OCTOBER 2025 AS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, October 1, 2025, marked the beginning of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, which has been observed nationally since 1989 to connect individuals and organizations working on domestic violence issues and to raise awareness of domestic violence, including intimate partner violence; and

WHEREAS, intimate partner violence (IPV), includes physical, sexual, and psychological abuse, stalking, and coercive behaviors by a current or former partner, and can affect anyone regardless of age, gender, or background; and

WHEREAS, according to a report by End Domestic Abuse Wisconsin, the state saw a record number of domestic violence deaths last year with an increase from 85 deaths in 2023 to 99 deaths in 2024; and

WHEREAS, in Dane County, about one in five homicides are IPV-related, with approximately 1,000 incidents of IPV reported to law enforcement each year; and

WHEREAS, women make up the majority of IPV-related victims in Dane County, and victimization rates are higher among Native American, Black, and Hispanic residents, reflecting persistent inequities; and

WHEREAS, the role of our communities in supporting survivors is crucial, as reflected in the 2025 theme, “With Survivors, Always,” which calls on us to stand in solidarity with survivors, advancing safety, support, and healing; and

WHEREAS, local organizations, such as the Domestic Abuse Intervention Services (DAIS), which was founded in 1977 to empower those affected by domestic abuse and advocate for social change through education, outreach, and resources; and

WHEREAS, DAIS manages the only emergency shelter available to IPV survivors in Dane County, we must call on the city, county, and State of Wisconsin to provide more safe and supportive spaces for our residents affected by domestic abuse; and

WHEREAS, everyone deserves to live life in safe spaces and be in relationships free of violence.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors commits to supporting organizations like DAIS, which protects residents of Dane County in their shelter, tirelessly advocates for policies, provides resources and training, and continues to raise awareness about domestic abuse for residents of Dane County.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Dane County Board of Supervisors recognizes October 2025 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

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Patrick Miles, Chair
Dane County Board of Supervisors

Signed and sealed before me this
_____ day of _____, 2025.

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Scott McDonell,
Dane County Clerk