



Staff Report

For City Council Meeting - 10/7/2020

Subject - New Business - Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation

Synopsis: The City was contacted by The Harbor to request that October 2020 be declared Domestic Violence Awareness Month. A form of proclamation was attached for consideration. In the past, the City has granted funds in support of The Harbor and its advocacy on behalf of survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

Recommendation: The Council read and adopt the enclosed proclamation via signature to show The City's support of Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Legal Analysis: N/A

Financial Analysis: N/A

Respectfully Submitted,

Chad

Proclamation

Whereas: the first Domestic Violence Month was observed in October 1987, the same year that saw the initiation of the first national domestic violence toll-free hotline and in 1989 Congress designated October as national Domestic Violence Awareness Month; and

Whereas: domestic violence is a pattern of assaultive and coercive behaviors – including physical, psychological, sexual and economic abuse; social isolation and stalking – that are used to maintain power and control over a person’s intimate partner; and

Whereas: the crime of domestic violence violates an individual’s dignity, safety and basic human rights; and

Whereas: domestic violence is the single largest cause of injury and homicide for women; and

Whereas: children exposed to domestic violence experience terror, isolation, guilt, helplessness and grief and have a higher risk of engaging in criminal behavior and substance abuse, and becoming victims of crime; and

Whereas: domestic violence is the single largest cause of injury and homicide for women; and

Whereas: domestic violence impacts the health and well-being of our community; and

Whereas: it is incumbent on every citizen to play a role in preventing and ending domestic violence.

Now,

Therefore: I Matt Brown, Mayor of Gearhart proclaim October 2020 to be:

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

in the City of Gearhart and encourage all Gearhart residents to join in this observance.

Signature: _____

Fwd: Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation

Chad Sweet <chadsweet@cityofgearhart.com>
To: Krysti Ficker <krysti@cityofgearhart.com>

Mon, Sep 28, 2020 at 2:13 PM

For correspondence
Chad

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Matt J. Brown** <mayorbrown@cityofgearhart.com>

Date: Sat, Sep 26, 2020 at 5:03 PM

Subject: Re: Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation

To: Emily Spalding <emily@harbornw.org>, Chad Sweet <chadsweet@cityofgearhart.com>, Paulina Cockrum <councilorcockrum@cityofgearhart.com>

Yes of course! I will CC our city manager and council president on this to get it on the agenda for October, thank you!

All the best,

Matt

Matt J. Brown | Mayor

City of Gearhart

698 Pacific Way | PO Box 2510

Gearhart, Oregon 97138

Office: (503) 738-5501 | Fax: (503) 738-9385

Twitter: @mayormattybrown

Facebook.com/mayormattybrown

#WhyWeLoveGearhart

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: Please do not read, copy, or disseminate this communication unless you are the intended addressee. This e-mail may contain confidential and/or privileged information intended only for the addressee. If you have received this in error, please notify me via return e-mail.

On Sat, Sep 26, 2020 at 4:33 PM Emily Spalding <emily@harbornw.org> wrote:

Hi Mayor Brown,

I wanted to reach out again to see if you'd be willing to record and/or read the Domestic Violence Month Proclamation at your upcoming October council meeting.

This October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month, The Harbor is trying to offer distanced/virtual events to raise awareness about domestic violence and show survivors support. We would greatly appreciate your support in this effort.

Thank you for your consideration!

Kindly,
Emily

Emily Spalding

she/her/hers

DSART Advocate



The Harbor

Office: 503.325.3426

24/7 Support: 503.325.5735

24-horas línea de crisis en español 1.855.938.0584

www.theharbornw.org

From: Emily Spalding <emily@harbornw.org>

Sent: Saturday, September 26, 2020 4:32 PM

To: mayorbrown@cityofgearhart.com <mayorbrown@cityofgearhart.com>

Subject: Re: Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation

Hi Mayor Brown,

From: Emily Spalding

Sent: Thursday, September 3, 2020 3:45 PM

To: mayorbrown@cityofgearhart.com <mayorbrown@cityofgearhart.com>

Subject: Domestic Violence Awareness Month Proclamation

Hi Mayor Brown,

My name is Emily, and I am a new advocate at The Harbor in Astoria. I became an advocate at the Harbor because of personal experience with domestic violence and sexual assault. I have experienced the devastating effects of those crimes, but also tremendous healing that comes from being heard, believed, and supported.

As you know, The Harbor is Clatsop County's certified advocacy center for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking. The Harbor's mission is to provide advocacy, prevention, and support, while promoting self-determination and hope for survivors. They do this by providing a number of free and confidential services, including: emergency, confidential shelter; assistance with protective orders; hospital and court accompaniment; a 24-hour crisis line; and, DSART (domestic and sexual assault response team) services, which work with law enforcement and health professionals to meet with survivors 24 hours a day for support, resources, and follow-up. Each year, 5% of Clatsop County residents access The Harbor's services.

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month. During the month of October, The Harbor will be putting on a number of COVID-safe events to support and honor survivors and educate the public about domestic violence.

Domestic violence is a pattern of behavior that is used to establish power and control over another person through fear and intimidation, often including the threat or use of violence. Some signs of domestic violence include: exerting strict control (e.g., financial, social), emotional abuse (e.g., insulting a partner in front of other people), extreme jealousy, unexplained injuries, and showing fear around a partner. Domestic violence is far more prevalent than most people realize. 1 in 4 women and 1 in 9 men experience violence from their partners in their lifetimes. In Oregon, 37% of women have experienced intimate partner violence (this is higher than the national average).

No one is immune from domestic violence: it occurs across all populations, regardless of gender identity, age, race, sexual orientation, or class. Each year, 12.7 million people are physically abused, raped, or stalked by their partner. That equates to 24 people every minute. We know that acts of domestic violence thrive in silence. That is why we want your help in speaking out about this important issue during Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) was first observed in October 1987. Two years later, in 1989, Congress designated October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Since then, three main focuses for DVAM have persisted: mourning those who have died because of domestic violence, celebrating those who have survived, and working to end the violence.

As leaders in our community, we are hoping you will join us in working toward those goals this October for DVAM. We want to break the silence and stigma by speaking out against domestic violence and show survivors that we stand with them.

I am writing this email to ask if you would be willing to announce October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month at your meetings and read (or record) yourself reading the proclamation attached to this email.

Please let me know if you have any questions or if there are any ways that I, or The Harbor, can support you in any way.

Thank you for all that you do to support the work of The Harbor and all of the survivors in our community.

Kindly,
Emily

Emily Spalding
she/her/hers
DSART Advocate



The Harbor
Office: 503.325.3426
24/7 Support: 503.325.5735
24-horas linea de crisis en español 1.855.938.0584
www.theharbornw.org

--
"Resilient Together!"

Chad Sweet | City Administrator
City of Gearhart
698 Pacific Way | Gearhart, Oregon 97138
Office: (503) 738-5501 | Fax: (503) 738-9385
chadsweet@cityofgearhart.com

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE:

Please do not read, copy, or disseminate this communication unless you are the intended addressee. This e-mail may contain confidential and privileged information intended only for the addressee. If you have received this in error, please notify me via return e-mail.