



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION 2024

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, privacy, security, safety and basic human rights; and victims should have help to find the compassion, comfort and healing they need; and

WHEREAS, one in every three women and one in four men in the U.S. experience rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime; domestic violence is the single largest cause of injury and homicide for women; and

WHEREAS, approximately 15.5 million children are exposed to domestic violence every year. 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 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, that the Gearhart City Council hereby proclaims October 1, 2024 through October 31, 2024 as

“DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH”

in Gearhart and invites all community members and local agencies to join in this month of observance by speaking out against domestic violence, raising awareness, and supporting survivors.

DATED this 2nd day of October, 2024.

Kerry Smith Mayor

ATTEST:

CLB City Administrator