

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR JANICE HAHN**

**Proclaiming October 2024 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month and October 16, 2024, as Domestic Violence Providers Appreciation Day**

National Domestic Violence Awareness Month was established in October 1987 to bring public awareness of domestic/intimate partner violence (DV/IPV), educate leaders on the topic, and advocate for legislation as well as protection for survivors. DV/IPV is abuse that occurs in a close relationship with a current or former spouse, cohabitant, dating partner, or person with whom the victim has a child. It encompasses a range of behaviors that include physical, sexual, verbal, emotional, psychological abuse, coercive and economic control. These behaviors may occur in tandem and can result in destructive, harmful effects on individuals, family, and community.

DV/IPV is not a stand-alone issue. DV/IPV intersects with other critical social health issues including, but not limited to, housing and homelessness, substance abuse and chemical dependency, community violence and gang violence, child abuse and child welfare, mental health, poverty, legal criminal systems, and health care access. Survivors face negative health outcomes such as conditions affecting the heart and the reproductive and nervous systems that can have long-term effects. Survivors can also experience mental health problems such as depression and post-traumatic stress disorder. In addition, domestic violence can result in injury or death. One in six homicide victims are

MOTION

- SOLIS \_\_\_\_\_
- MITCHELL \_\_\_\_\_
- HAHN \_\_\_\_\_
- BARGER \_\_\_\_\_
- HORVATH \_\_\_\_\_

killed by an intimate partner.

DV/IPV is a public health issue in California, that affects all, regardless of race, religion, occupation, educational level, culture, socio-economic status, sexual orientation, or sexual identity. However, survivors from racial and ethnic communities and historically underserved populations often encounter additional barriers to seeking safety and receiving effective assistance. Therefore, addressing DV/IPV requires implementation of a comprehensive, coordinated, and survivor-centered approach to programming.

The Los Angeles County Domestic Violence Prevention Council (DVC) is a coalition of public and community-based members who provide leadership and guidance in the creation and support of a victim/survivor-centered, coordinated countywide approach to addressing DV/IPV. The DVC also advises the Board of Supervisors and other Los Angeles County Departments on DV/IPV related issues. The leadership of community-based domestic violence service providers in supporting survivors and preventing abuse and exploitation will be recognized and celebrated at the 2nd Annual Domestic Violence Awareness Breakfast, hosted by the DVC, on October 16, 2024. The Los Angeles County Office of Women's Health (OWH) is a funder, and partners with more than 55 community-based agencies to provide critical intervention and support services essential to facilitating safety, addressing trauma, and working towards long-term stability for survivors.

DV/IPV is a community issue, and the safety and stability of individuals and families relies heavily on coordinated community and systems responses. Los Angeles County is committed to ending domestic violence and treating everyone impacted by domestic violence with dignity and respect, acknowledging the impact of institutional and individual trauma in their lives.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

1. Proclaim October 2024 as “Domestic Violence Awareness Month” in the County of Los Angeles;
2. Proclaim October 16th, 2024, as “Domestic Violence Providers Appreciation Day” in the County of Los Angeles;
3. Direct the Los Angeles County Domestic Violence Council to establish an Ad Hoc Advisory Committee within the Domestic Violence Council to engage with Los Angeles County domestic violence survivors and work in collaboration with the Office of Violence Prevention to provide recommendations on how Los Angeles County may improve policies, protocols, training, and other efforts to improve response, access, services, and support for survivors of domestic/intimate partner violence.
  - a. The Ad Hoc Committee will be comprised of and led by domestic violence survivors; and will recruit domestic violence survivors and gender-based violence survivors to be a part of its membership;
  - b. The Ad Hoc Committee will engage the community of survivors and the Office of Violence Prevention on issues of access, response, and supportive services for domestic violence survivors, and provide a written report to the Board of Supervisors in 180 days with recommendations on how Los Angeles County may improve its response, services, and support for survivors and their families; and
4. Encourage all Los Angeles County employees and residents to reach out and support agencies throughout the Los Angeles County that provide services to survivors of domestic violence and their families, and to reach out and support

their friends, neighbors, colleagues, and co-workers who are impacted by domestic violence.

# # #

JH:jm