## NORTH DAKOTA

## PROCLAMATION =

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH OCTOBER 2025

WHEREAS, every person has the right to live free of violence at home and in neighborhoods, schools and communities across North Dakota; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is an ongoing pattern of behaviors and abusive tactics used by an intimate partner or ex-partner to gain complete control over a person's life and is a serious public health issue that affects all communities and citizens of North Dakota; and

WHEREAS, national data shows 1 in every 4 women have experienced sexual violence, physical violence and/or stalking by an intimate partner during their lifetime with "IPV-related impact" such as being concerned for their safety, PTSD symptoms, injury or needing victim services; and

WHEREAS, in North Dakota in 2024, 17 domestic violence and rape crisis centers served 6,334 unduplicated victims of domestic violence, and at least 4,708 children were directly impacted by these events; and

WHEREAS, prevention is possible and simple acts can make a difference. North Dakotans are encouraged to support survivors, have informed conversations about domestic violence, challenge social norms that enable domestic violence and join domestic violence victim advocates in the belief that all community members must be a part of the solution to end domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, together, through prevention education, increased awareness and ensuring justice for victims of violence by holding perpetrators responsible for their actions, we can end domestic violence in North Dakota.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim October 2025, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH in the State of North Dakota.

Kelly Armstrong GOVERNOR

ATTEST

Michael Howe SECRETARY OF STATE