

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA

PROCLAMATION

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH OCTOBER 2023

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 power and control over a person's life, and is a serious public health issue that affects all communities and citizens of North Dakota, without regard for age, race, ability, sexual orientation, gender or social, ethnic, geographic or economic differences; and

WHEREAS, national data shows 1 in 4 women and 1 in 10 men experience sexual violence, physical violence and/or stalking by an intimate partner during their lifetime, resulting in impacts such as being concerned for their safety, PTSD symptoms, injury or needing victim services; and

WHEREAS, in North Dakota, 19 domestic violence and rape crisis centers served 6,128 unduplicated victims of domestic violence and provided victim assistance with 574 emergency protection orders in 2022; and approximately 4,032 children were impacted by these incidents in the same year; and 85 women were pregnant at the time they were assaulted and 18% of new victims were people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, in at least 33% of cases, the abuser had a history of abusive behavior with other adults, including prior partners; and alcohol use by the abuser was indicated in 18% of the new cases; and

WHEREAS, prevention is possible and simple acts can make a difference; and

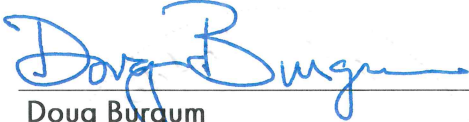
WHEREAS, North Dakotans are encouraged to have informed conversations about domestic violence, learn the skills needed to be an active bystander, challenge social norms that enable domestic violence, and join anti-domestic violence advocates and support service programs in the belief that all community members must be a part of the solution to end domestic violence; and


WHEREAS, through prevention education, increased awareness and ensuring justice for victims of violence by holding perpetrators responsible for their actions, North Dakotans can work to end domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, October is nationally recognized as Domestic Violence Awareness Month and is intended to remember victims of domestic violence, celebrate survivors and work together to identify and eliminate domestic violence in our state and nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim
October 2023, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH in the
State of North Dakota.




Doug Burgum
GOVERNOR

ATTEST: 
Michael Howe
SECRETARY OF STATE