
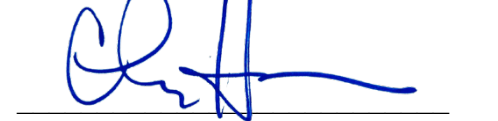




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3 Chairman Phil Mendelson


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6 Councilmember Charles Allen


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9 Councilmember Matthew Frumin

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12 Councilmember Christina Henderson

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15 Councilmember Kenyah R. McDuffie


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18 Councilmember Zachary Parker



Councilmember Brooke Pinto


Councilmember Anita Bonds


Councilmember Vincent C. Gray


Councilmember Janeese Lewis George


Councilmember Brianne K. Nadeau


Councilmember Robert C. White, Jr.

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

To declare the month of October 2024 as “Domestic Violence Awareness Month” in the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, protecting and improving the dignity and safety of all residents is the foundation of a vibrant and healthy community;

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behavior used to exert power and control over an intimate partner that jeopardizes the security and well-being of District residents, and such destructive acts will not be tolerated;

44 WHEREAS, all forms of domestic violence—including physical, psychological,
45 emotional, and economic abuse—can have devastating consequences for survivors and their
46 families;

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48 WHEREAS, 47% of women and 43% of men in the District have experienced intimate
49 partner physical violence, sexual violence, or stalking in their lifetimes;

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51 WHEREAS, approximately 736 million women across the world have experienced
52 physical or sexual violence by an intimate partner or sexual violence from a non-partner;

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54 WHEREAS, nearly 99% of survivors experienced economic abuse from their partner, with
55 many also facing long-term financial consequences as a result of intimate partner violence;

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57 WHEREAS, in a one-day snapshot in 2023, 756 survivors received help from domestic
58 violence service providers in the District, with 577 of those survivors receiving housing;

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60 WHEREAS, in that same one-day period, 199 additional survivors called domestic
61 violence hotlines;

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63 WHEREAS, in that same one-day period, providers were unable to meet approximately 35
64 survivors’ requests for housing or emergency shelter;

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66 WHEREAS, of District residents experiencing homelessness in 2024, 50% of adults in
67 families and 26% of single adults reported some history of domestic violence victimization;

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69 WHEREAS, 40% of homeless youth in the District indicate that they have experienced
70 domestic violence;

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72 WHEREAS, in FY23, intimate partner violence was the most common call type to the DC
73 Victim Hotline, a 46% increase over FY22.

74
75 WHEREAS, in FY23, 1048 survivors called the *national* DV Hotline, with 472 of these
76 calls involving requests for shelter. 57% of callers who shared their race were Black/ African
77 American; 84% were female.

78
79 WHEREAS, according to the 2017 DC Women’s Needs Assessment Report, Black
80 women, who comprise only 52% of the adult women’s population, accounted for 75% of the
81 District’s unaccompanied homeless women’s population;

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83 WHEREAS, domestic violence service providers continue to report that their survivor
84 services are in very high demand;

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86 WHEREAS, in addition to the increased demand for services, local domestic violence
87 service providers are reporting a significant increase in the lethality of domestic violence;

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89 WHEREAS, economic stability and access to financial resources can be a critical factor in
90 a survivor’s ability to leave an abuser or dangerous environment;

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92 WHEREAS, the District must commit to addressing the racial, social, and economic
93 inequities that are uniquely harmful to communities of color and that hinder many survivors from
94 thriving after leaving an abusive relationship;

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96 WHEREAS, there is a continuing need for survivors to have access to culturally-specific
97 services which affirm their heritage, customs, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other lived
98 experiences;

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100 WHEREAS, service providers should receive adequate funding and support from local,
101 regional, and federal governments to address the growing demand and greater need for housing,
102 counseling, legal, and culturally-specific services;

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104 WHEREAS, the goal of Domestic Violence Awareness Month is to improve awareness of
105 domestic violence and outreach to residents and community members, and foster cooperation
106 between public and private actors to end domestic violence in the District;

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108 WHEREAS, the District can do much more to support survivors and service providers, and
109 the Council will continue to partner with District agencies, community-based organizations, and
110 residents to keep survivors safe.

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112 RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this
113 resolution may be cited as the “Domestic Violence Awareness Month Recognition Resolution of
114 2024”.

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116 Sec. 2. The Council declares the month of October 2024 as “Domestic Violence Awareness
117 Month” in the District of Columbia.

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119 Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in
120 the District of Columbia Register.