



**HONORARY PROCLAMATION DECLARING
OCTOBER 2017 AS
"DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH"**

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a systematic pattern of abusive behavior to gain power and control through use of physical violence, sexual violence, threats, and/or emotional abuse used by one intimate partner against another and, therefore, is now more accurately called "intimate partner violence" by those who work with this issue; and

WHEREAS, intimate partner violence affects women, men, and children of all racial, ethnic, cultural, social, religious, and economic groups. In a single day, safe houses in California served almost 5,800 women and children. Approximately 40% of California women experience physical intimate partner violence in their lifetimes while 1 in 3 female murder victims in the United States are killed by intimate partners; and

WHEREAS, California law enforcement agencies received 162,302 domestic violence-related calls in 2015 and intimate partner violence accounts for 15% of all violent crime in the United States; and

WHEREAS, children exposed to intimate partner violence in the home experience long-term consequences such as difficulty at school, substance abuse, and serious adult health problems and, among families, intimate partner violence is the third leading cause of homelessness; and

WHEREAS, the Women's Shelter Program of San Luis Obispo County strives to increase public awareness and understanding of intimate partner violence and the needs of survivors. In 2016, the Women's Shelter Program of San Luis Obispo County served nearly 800 survivors in our community, providing essential, lifesaving services for survivors and their children fleeing violence; and

WHEREAS, survivors of intimate partner violence embody incredible strength and resilience to overcome trauma and abuse to build lives free of violence; and

WHEREAS, the City of Arroyo Grande supports the efforts of The Women's Shelter Program of San Luis Obispo County and its partners to work to reduce intimate partner violence in San Luis Obispo County through prevention education, increased awareness, and holding perpetrators who commit acts of violence responsible for their actions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Jim Hill, Mayor of the City of Arroyo Grande, does hereby declare October 2017 as "Domestic Violence Month".

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Arroyo Grande to be affixed this 24th day of October 2017.

JIM HILL, MAYOR



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