

Proclamation

Whereas, 1 in every 4 women will experience domestic violence during her lifetime;

Whereas, approximately 15.5 million children are exposed to domestic violence every year;

Whereas, when a family member is abused, it can have long-term damaging effects on the victim that also leave a mark on family, friends, and the community at large;

Whereas domestic violence is widespread and is devastating to society as a whole, but particularly women and children;

Whereas, the problem of domestic violence is not confined to any group or groups of people, but crosses all economic, racial, gender, educational, religious, and societal barriers, and is sustained by societal indifference;

Whereas, the crime of domestic violence violates an individual's privacy, dignity, security, and humanity;

Whereas, victims should have help to find the compassion, comfort, and healing they need, and domestic abusers should be punished to the full extent of the law;

Whereas, victims of violence should have access to medical and legal services, counseling, transitional housing, and other supportive services so that they can escape the cycle of abuse;

Whereas, we encourage domestic violence victims and their families to seek assistance from appropriate victims' services organizations and Safe Space of Butte (782-8511);

Whereas, it is important to recognize the compassion and dedication of the individuals who provide services to victims of domestic violence and work to increase public understanding of this significant problem;

Whereas, local programs, state coalitions, national organizations, and other agencies nationwide are committed to increasing public awareness of domestic violence and its prevalence, and to eliminating it through prevention and education;

Whereas, important partnerships have been formed among criminal and juvenile justice agencies, healthcare providers, allied professionals, and victim services to assist victims of domestic violence and their families;

Whereas, our community and Nation must dedicate ourselves to protecting vulnerable members of our society;

Whereas, our community and Nation has a moral obligation to work to prevent domestic violence and to address its brutal and destructive effects;

Whereas, All of US must make ending domestic violence a priority;

NOW THEREFORE, in recognition of this, I, Matt Vincent, as the Chief Executive of Butte-Silver Bow do hereby proclaim the month of October 2013 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month and urge all citizens to actively participate in working together towards the elimination of domestic violence.

Dated this 9th day of
October, 2013

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Matt Vincent', written over a horizontal line.

Matt Vincent,
Chief Executive