

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, in just one day, across the U.S. and its territories, nearly 75,000 victims of domestic violence sought services from domestic violence programs and shelters. That same day, more than 9,000 requests for services, including emergency shelter, housing, transportation, childcare and legal representation, could not be provided because programs lacked the resources to meet victims' needs; and

WHEREAS, Native women are 2.5 times more likely to be assaulted than other groups of women in the United States and homicide is the third leading cause of death for Native women; and

WHEREAS, the impact of domestic violence is wide ranging, directly affecting individuals and society as a whole, here in this community, throughout the United States and the world; and

WHEREAS, racism, homophobia, transphobia, ageism and discrimination based on physical ability, nationality or other factors help to perpetuate domestic violence and make finding safety even more difficult for some victims; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that Black lives matter, and that there is a shared history and common realities among indigenous and Black communities and adequately responding to domestic violence saves Black and indigenous lives; and

WHEREAS, ending domestic violence requires the leadership of survivors, support of Tribal leaders, state government, effective criminal justice responses, well informed public health services and educated community members, and demands that all systems and individuals commit to non-violence; and

WHEREAS, intimate partner violence remains one of the most prevalent, yet underreported crimes in the Nation and in Indian Country;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim October 2020 as

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to take an active role in increasing the public's awareness of this issue and in striving to reduce domestic violence in our region.

Signed this 19th day of October, 2020

Governor Jay Inslee

