

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behaviors, characterized by one partner's need to control the other by using a range of tactics that can include physical, sexual, emotional, economic, psychological, or technological actions, threats of actions, or other patterns of coercive behavior; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence often starts early in one's lifetime, with almost three quarters of female victims of intimate partner violence reporting they were first victimized before age 25, and more than 1 in 4 first victimized before the age of 18; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence must be understood as more than individual behavior, as it is rooted in social values that place importance on people having power over others and allows violence against women and other groups to occur with minimal and/or no accountability; and

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

WHEREAS, there is no survivor justice without racial justice and domestic violence is directly linked to all forms of violence, and to break the cycle of domestic violence we must be committed to ending racism, discrimination, and systemic oppression; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence can have many negative impacts on victims such as lowered self-confidence, physical illness and disability, difficulty trusting self/others, and poverty. Despite these impacts, victims find many creative and courageous ways to survive and protect themselves and their families; and

WHEREAS, we need to break the cycle of intergenerational trauma through education, therapeutic recovery and healing, community building, supportive services, and legal interventions, to prevent children who have witnessed domestic violence from internalizing and replicating these behaviors as adults; and

WHEREAS, the City of Seattle invests over \$14 million in community-based services for survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking, and partners with 35 organizations to provide services to more than 7,500 survivors and their families each year; and

WHEREAS, we all have a role to play in creating safe and thriving communities for all, and preventing domestic violence involves interrupting the cultural rules and constructs that support it, and a call to the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE (7233) or local King County DV Hopeline at 206-737-0242 can help put a person on a path to safety; and

WHEREAS, this year's theme for Domestic Violence Awareness Month is "Heal, Hold, and Center" as we recognize and embrace the diverse ways that survivors and communities heal from violence and oppression, and center those most marginalized in our efforts to end domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, Thursday, October 17, 2024, is Purple Thursday, a National Day of Action to raise awareness by wearing purple and showing commitment to ending domestic violence;

*THEREFORE, THE MAYOR AND THE SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL PROCLAIM
OCTOBER 2024 TO BE*

Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Seattle

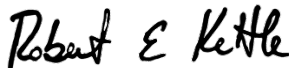
AND RECOGNIZE THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2024, AS

Purple Thursday

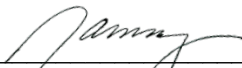
We encourage all Seattle residents to recognize the signs of abuse and coercion, take steps to raise awareness about this issue, and work to make this city a place where domestic violence no longer exists.



Mayor Bruce Harrell



Councilmember Robert Kettle



Councilmember Tammy J. Morales



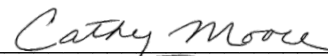
Councilmember Rob Saka



Councilmember Tanya Woo



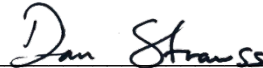
Council President Sara Nelson



Councilmember Cathy Moore



Councilmember Maritza Rivera



Councilmember Dan Strauss