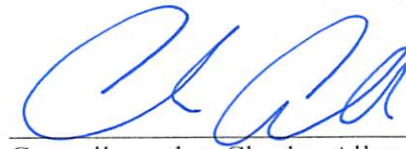
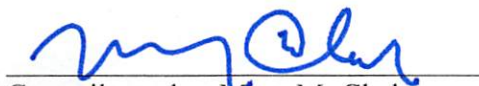



1   
2 Chairman Phil Mendelson

  
Councilmember Charles Allen

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6 Councilmember Mary M. Cheh

  
Councilmember Brandon T. Todd

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11 A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION  
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16 IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
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20  
21 To declare the month of October 2019 as “Domestic Violence Awareness Month” in the District  
22 of Columbia.

23  
24 WHEREAS, preserving and improving the dignity and safety of all District residents is the  
25 foundation of a vibrant and healthy community;

26  
27 WHEREAS, domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behavior used to exert power and  
28 control over an intimate partner, and it jeopardizes the security and well-being of District residents;

29  
30 WHEREAS, all forms of domestic violence – including physical, psychological,  
31 emotional, and economic – can have devastating consequences for survivors and their families;

32  
33 WHEREAS, domestic violence can escalate into fatal conflicts, with 12 domestic violence-  
34 related fatalities in the District in 2018;

35  
36 WHEREAS, a total of 5,921 petitions for civil protection orders were either filed or  
37 reopened in 2018;

38  
39 WHEREAS, in 2018, the Office of Unified Communications reported that there were more  
40 than 30,000 calls for service for domestic violence-related incidents;

41  
42 WHEREAS, youth in the District of Columbia deserve to be safe at school, in the home,  
43 and across the District;

45 WHEREAS, one in three adolescent girls in the United States is a victim of physical abuse  
46 from a dating partner, a figure that far exceeds victimization rates for other types of violence  
47 affecting youth;

48  
49 WHEREAS, 24 percent of middle and high school students in the District of Columbia  
50 report experiencing violence by someone they were dating in the past 12 months;

51  
52 WHEREAS, an estimated 8.5 million women in the United States have reported  
53 experiencing physical violence, rape, or stalking from an intimate partner before the age of 18;

54  
55 WHEREAS, 39 percent of women in the District of Columbia have been subjected to  
56 sexual violence, physical violence, or stalking, and 50 percent reported experiencing psychological  
57 aggression by an intimate partner during their lifetime;

58  
59 WHEREAS, domestic violence creates devastating economic costs for survivors, their  
60 families, and the community at large;

61  
62 WHEREAS, nationally, women subjected to intimate partner violence lose nearly 13.6  
63 million days of productivity each year, including 8 million days of paid work and 5.6 million days  
64 of childcare and other household work;

65  
66 WHEREAS, community-based organizations are an essential resource to survivors of  
67 domestic violence;

68  
69 WHEREAS, in 2018, in a single day, domestic violence programs served 589 survivors in  
70 the District of Columbia, with 404 survivors receiving emergency shelter or transitional housing  
71 and 185 survivors receiving non-residential assistance and services – including counseling, legal  
72 advocacy, and children’s support groups;

73  
74 WHEREAS, community-based organizations serving survivors of domestic violence need  
75 local, regional, and national support to continue to be strong advocates for survivors and care for  
76 their needs;

77  
78 WHEREAS, community-based organization serving survivors of domestic violence should  
79 be funded at levels that allow these organizations to pay service providers a living wage;

80  
81 WHEREAS, domestic violence does not discriminate, including on the basis of age, gender  
82 identity, sexual orientation, disability, socio-economic status, religion, or race;

83  
84 WHEREAS, there is a continuing need for survivors to have access to culturally specific  
85 services that respect a survivor’s cultural heritage, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other  
86 lived experiences;

87  
88 WHEREAS, the Council of the District of Columbia will continue to partner with District  
89 agencies, community-based organizations, and residents to build a domestic violence continuum  
90 of care that supports survivors and allows them to flourish;

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WHEREAS, the goal of Domestic Violence Awareness Month is to improve awareness about domestic violence and foster cooperation between public and private actors to end domestic violence in the District.

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Domestic Violence Awareness Month Recognition Resolution of 2019”.

Sec. 2. The Council declares the month of October 2019 as “Domestic Violence Awareness Month” in the District of Columbia.

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