



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, domestic violence impacts countless New Yorkers, without regard to age, race, religion, or economic status; as victims suffer at the hands of a spouse or partner, it affects their children, families, and entire communities; and

Whereas, almost 330,000 calls were made to domestic violence and sexual assault hotlines in New York State in 2012; New York State courts report a 34% increase in the number of orders of protection issued since 2007; and nearly 32,000 of the assaults reported to police agencies outside of New York City were committed by intimate partners; and

Whereas, New York State's criminal justice and health and human services agencies are strongly committed to ending domestic violence, as exemplified by efforts including: the creation of a fatality review team, development of a policy providing guiding principles for professionals whose work intersects with domestic violence, and increased response by law enforcement, such as a home visiting program; and

Whereas, New Yorkers rely on the state's outstanding network of domestic violence programs to provide a range of essential services, including, in 2012, residential services to nearly 17,000 victims, over half of whom were children, and non-residential services to nearly 46,000 victims; and

Whereas, New York State acknowledges that awareness and education are critical components of prevention and therefore strives to increase the public's knowledge of domestic violence by collaborating on initiatives such as the state's annual "Shine the Light on Domestic Violence" initiative, which connects communities across the state by turning New York purple in October, developing new initiatives to reach teens and young adults, producing informational materials, and continually increasing and enhancing outreach through social media; and

Whereas, New Yorkers join with all Americans in supporting victims of domestic violence and share the worthy goals of this month-long observance, and likewise support the work of public and private entities that strive to provide the best coordinated response to domestic violence in communities across this state, sending a loud and clear message to abusers that domestic violence is not tolerated in New York;

Now, Therefore, I, Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim October 2013 as

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

in the Empire State.



Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State
at the Capitol in the City of Albany this twenty-sixth day
of September in the year two thousand thirteen.

Governor

Secretary to the Governor