



CLACKAMAS COUNTY SHERIFF

Sheriff Angela Brandenburg

Jesse Ashby, Undersheriff

Lee Eby, Undersheriff

Brad O'Neil, Undersheriff

October 2, 2025

BCC Agenda Date/Item:

Board of County Commissioners
Clackamas County

Approval of a Proclamation of October 2025 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Clackamas County. No fiscal impact.

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|-------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|--------------|
| Previous Board Action/Review | 2023 Proclamation 2024 Proclamation | | |
| Performance Clackamas | 1. Which indicator of success does this item affect? Building trust through good government; and ensuring safe, healthy and secure communities. | | |
| Counsel Review | No | Procurement Review | No |
| Contact Person | Erin Henkelman | Contact Phone | 503-680-5545 |

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM) is a national campaign dedicated to raising awareness about domestic violence. Every October, organizations and individuals across the country unite to uplift the needs, voices, and experiences of survivors. This month highlights the importance of access to safe shelters, counseling, legal advocacy, and prevention education. Congress officially designated October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in 1989.

When domestic violence occurs, it may seem like an isolated event, affecting just one person or a single household. In reality, the impact extends far beyond, rippling outward to affect survivors' children, family, friends, workplaces, and the broader community. Understanding this ripple effect underscores that addressing domestic violence is not only about supporting one individual—it is about healing the fabric of the entire community.

Locally, A Safe Place Family Justice Center (ASP-FJC) provides critical resources to survivors, offering hope and pathways toward rebuilding lives. ASP-FJC partners deliver coordinated, free services under one roof, fostering empowerment and collaboration for survivors and their children. In 2024, ASP-FJC supported 812 first-time survivors

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Office: 9101 SE Sunnybrook Boulevard, Clackamas, Oregon 97015

Mailing: 2223 Kaen Road, Oregon City, Oregon 97045

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accessing services, assisted 631 survivors in filing protective orders, and provided over 3,400 service visits.

Through a federal collaborative grant, ASP-FJC has expanded access to services for all survivors, including those with limited English proficiency, as well as survivors who are Deaf, DeafBlind, blind, hard of hearing, or living with other disabilities. Over 90 staff from partner organizations—including law enforcement, prosecution, courts, advocates, and ODHS—received training on respectful language and disability access. ASP-FJC also conducted a comprehensive accessibility assessment incorporating survivor feedback and developed both short-term and long-term recommendations to improve access. Bridges Oregon, which serves survivors who are Deaf, DeafBlind, or Hard of Hearing, provided a comprehensive review of ASP-FJC's restraining order process to ensure community access and delivered training to over 30 staff from partner organizations on supporting survivors. These efforts strengthen ASP-FJC's ability to serve all members of the community effectively and without barriers.

This year's DVAM theme, *With Survivors, Always*, highlights what it means to partner with survivors in promoting safety, support, and solidarity. It serves as both a tribute and a call to action for those committed to advocating for survivors' needs and rights. The month provides an opportunity to honor survivors' strength and resilience while recognizing the ongoing work needed to ensure safety and healing for all. DVAM underscores our community's commitment to creating safe, welcoming spaces and standing together to break the silence surrounding domestic violence.

RECOMMENDATION: The Sheriff's Office respectfully requests the Board of County Commissioners proclaim October 2025 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

Respectfully submitted,



Angela Brandenburg
Sheriff



Erin Henkelman
Director, A Safe Place Family Justice Center

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

OF CLACKAMAS COUNTY, STATE OF OREGON

In the Matter of Proclaiming October 2025 as
Domestic Violence Awareness Month in
Clackamas County



Board Order No. 2025-0XX

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Whereas, domestic violence is a serious crime in Clackamas County that affects people of all races, ages, gender, and income levels; and

Whereas, family is the foundation of a safe and healthy community, and it is the goal of Clackamas County for our communities to be safe; and

Whereas, more than 16 million people in the U.S. suffer from intimate partner abuse per year in the United States; and

Whereas, 32 people experience intimate partner violence in the United States every minute; and

Whereas, 30.3% of families involved with the Department of Human Services Child Welfare department had domestic violence as a component of their case in 2024; and

Whereas, 1,106 victims of domestic violence requested a protection order in Clackamas County in 2024;

Whereas, 812 victims accessed wrap-around services for the first time at A Safe Place Family Justice Center, for a total of 3,400 visits in 2024; and

Whereas, victims should have help to find the compassion, comfort, and healing they need, and abusers should be held accountable to the fullest extent of the law; and

Whereas, only a coordinated community effort will put a stop to this serious crime; and

Whereas, Domestic Violence Awareness Month provides an excellent opportunity for people to learn more about preventing domestic violence and to show support for the numerous organizations and individuals who provide critical advocacy, services and assistance to victims;

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NOW THEREFORE, the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners do hereby order to
proclaim October 2025 to be Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Clackamas County.

DATED this 2 day of October, 2025

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Chair

Recording Secretary