Proclamation

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PREVENTION & AWARENESS MONTH
OCTOBER 2026

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a serious crime that violates an individual's safety and dignity affecting people of all backgrounds regardless of race, gender identity, sexual orientation, or socioeconomic status; and

WHEREAS, intimate partner violence affects millions of Americans, often beginning before adulthood, highlighting the need for prevention and early intervention; and

WHEREAS, Domestic Violence Awareness Month honors survivors, remembers lives lost, and promotes prevention and healing; and

WHEREAS, On Thursday, October 15, North Carolina will observe "Wear Purple Day" to raise awareness about domestic violence, symbolizing courage, peace, and solidarity with survivors; and

WHEREAS, Helpmate, located at 35 Woodfin St., in Asheville, works with the community to eliminate abuse and fear by providing safety, shelter, and support for victims/survivors of intimate partner domestic violence.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that October 2026 is Domestic Violence Prevention & Awareness Month and encourages all residents to support survivors, raise awareness, and learn about local resources available, including Helpmate's free and confidential services and 24-hour hotline at 828-254-0516.

Proclaimed this the 12th day of October 2026.

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C. Michael Sobol, Mayor