

State of North Carolina



BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE
GOVERNOR

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH and NATIONAL DAY OF UNITY

2009

BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a pattern of control in an intimate relationship where one person uses coercion and violence to gain power and control over their partner; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence includes not only physical abuse, but also mental abuse, emotional abuse, financial abuse, isolation, and sexual violence; and

WHEREAS, women of all races and socioeconomic backgrounds are vulnerable to violence by an intimate partner; and

WHEREAS, approximately 1.3 million women and 835,000 men are physically assaulted by an intimate partner annually in the United States, according to the U.S. Department of Justice; and

WHEREAS, local domestic violence programs in North Carolina responded to 101,076 crisis line calls and served 41,787 victims in FY 2007, according to the Council for Women/Domestic Violence Commission; and

WHEREAS, 131 women, men, and children were murdered in 2008 in domestic violence related homicides, according to the North Carolina Department of Justice; and

WHEREAS, North Carolina ranked 13th in the nation for the number of per capita homicides committed by men against women in 2006, according to the Violence Policy Center; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that anywhere between 3.3 million and 10 million children witness domestic violence annually; and

WHEREAS, physical abuse during childhood increases the risk of future victimization among women and the risk of future perpetration of abuse by men more than two-fold; and

WHEREAS, by working together we can break the cycle of violence and build communities that are safe for everyone; and

WHEREAS, the statewide theme for Domestic Violence Awareness Month is *Safe Families, Safe Communities*;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE, Governor of the State of North Carolina, do hereby proclaim October 2009, as "DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH" and October 1, 2009, as "NATIONAL DAY OF UNITY" in North Carolina. I further urge our citizens to increase their awareness and education of this destructive force which deeply affects a large number of families in our state each year and to become part of the efforts to stop violence in families.



BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Great Seal of the State of North Carolina at the Capitol in Raleigh this third day of September in the year of our Lord two thousand and nine, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and thirty-fourth.

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