

# Proclamation

WHEREAS, Domestic violence is pattern of behavior used to gain or maintain power and control over an intimate partner, and that domestic abuse and all forms and systems of oppression must be eliminated; and

WHEREAS, Domestic violence involves physical, sexual, psychological and economic abuse, intimidation and isolation, and happens to one in every three women in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, Domestic violence touches the lives of people of all ages, races, backgrounds, genders and gender identities, sexual orientations, spiritual beliefs and circumstances when a home becomes a place of fear and hopelessness, and leaves in its wake a devastating impact on the entire community; and

WHEREAS, We voice compassion and pledge action for the families, friends, and communities that have experienced the anguish of domestic violence as at least 16 women in Minnesota were killed by a current or former intimate partner in 2019, and at least five more friends, family or bystanders lost their lives during a domestic violence incident; and

WHEREAS, We further voice our compassion and commitment for the thirty-seven children in Minnesota who lost their mothers in this past year due to domestic violence; in which twenty-three of those children were minors, and four were present at the time of their mother's murder or the discovery of her body; and

WHEREAS, Ramsey County is recognized as a national leader for its groundbreaking response to domestic violence, ranging from the critical work of the Ramsey County Attorney's, Community Corrections and Sheriff's Offices to our Communications Center, Social Services and Public Health; and

WHEREAS, We honor the pioneering work of community-based advocates who founded the nation's first shelter, have implemented culturally relevant approaches and responses, and have been instrumental in the creation of national models that reduce domestic violence and homicides; and

WHEREAS, As a County, we acknowledge that solutions to end domestic violence will only happen with the commitment of our entire community to ensure the safety of victims, and in working tirelessly with our community-based partners in realizing an equitable and violence-free community for all; Now, Therefore, Be It

PROCLAIMED, The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners declares October 2020 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Ramsey County.



Toni Carter, Board Chair, District 4



Mary Jo McGuire, Commissioner, District 2



Rafael E. Ortega, Commissioner, District 5



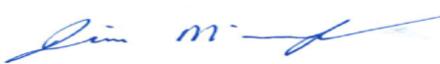
Victoria Reinhardt, Commissioner, District 7



Nicole Frethem, Commissioner, District 1



Trista MatasCastillo, Commissioner, District 3



Jim McDonough, Commissioner, District 6



Ryan T. O'Connor, County Manager