MONTAGUE COUNTY PROCLAMATION DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

OCTOBER 2021

Whereas, Domestic Violence Awareness Month is intended to draw attention to the fact that domestic violence is widespread and impacts every community member in Montague County; and

Whereas, Domestic Violence is the leading cause of injury to women, and that 92% of women surveyed listed reducing domestic violence and sexual assault as their top concerns, and that 1 in 4 women and 1 in 7 men will experience physical violence by their intimate partners; and

Whereas, up to 10 million children in the United States have witnessed some form of domestic violence, and that 1 in 5 teenaged girls report being threatened with violence or self-harm if they broke off the relationship with their boyfriend; and

Whereas, in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic reports regarding domestic violence tripled due to isolation at home because of business and school closures in 2020; and

Whereas, with education and a community wide effort at addressing and finding solutions to this devastating social ill, supporting survivors, and speaking out against harmful attitudes and actions; and with leadership, dedication, and encouragement, there is evidence that we can be successful in reducing the instances of domestic violence for the betterment of Montague County; and

Whereas, Wise Hope Crisis Center of Montague County offers safety, strength, and hope to victims of abuse through education and social services referrals, along with domestic violence survivors themselves who have been at the forefront of efforts to bring peace and equality to the home,

Now therefore be it resolved, that I, <u>Kevin L. Benton</u>, Montague County Judge, do hereby proclaim the month of October to be Domestic Violence Awareness Month and urge all Montague County citizens to actively participate in the effort to eradicating domestic violence, improving victim safety, and holding perpetrators of domestic abuse accountable for their actions against individual victims and our society as a whole.

GUE COUNT

Dated and Approved this // day of September, 2021

County of Montague

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