

# Ouray County Proclamation

## Domestic Violence Awareness Month



**WHEREAS**, October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM), and domestic violence continues to be a social and public health crisis, crossing lines of class, race, ethnicity, and sexuality; and

**WHEREAS**, domestic violence and abuse can happen to anyone, regardless of size, gender, or strength, yet the problem is often overlooked, excused, or denied; and

**WHEREAS**, there are many forms of domestic abuse which can be physical, sexual, emotional, economic, psychological or technological; and

**WHEREAS**, approximately 1 in 3 women (35.6%) and 1 in 4 men (28.5%) in the US have experienced rape, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner in their lifetime. (National Domestic Violence Hotline), including 32 cases in Ouray County between September 2024 and September 2025; and

**WHEREAS**, almost half of all women and men in the US have experienced psychological aggression by an intimate partner in their lifetime (48.4% and 48.8%, respectively); and

**WHEREAS**, secondary victims are often children who are exposed to parental abuse and one study found that children exposed to violence in the home were 15 times more likely to be physically and/or sexually assaulted than the national average (National Domestic Violence Hotline); and

**WHEREAS**, every relationship is different, and domestic violence doesn't always look the same, but noticing and acknowledging the warning signs and symptoms of domestic violence and abuse is the first step to ending it; and

**WHEREAS**, Ouray County Victim Services is dedicated to serving victims of domestic violence and abuse with Fairness, Dignity and Respect and making sure that the rights of victims are upheld through a sometimes very complicated judicial process; and

**WHEREAS**, Thursday, **October 16, 2025 is "Purple Thursday,"** a day to show support for those who have experienced domestic violence and abuse and let them know that help is available for themselves and their families; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Ouray County Board of County Commissioners proclaims October as "DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH" and urges all community members to join in wearing purple on Thursday, October 16, to show support and to work toward bringing more awareness to domestic violence and abuse.

