

WHEREAS, one in every four women will experience domestic violence during her lifetime; and

WHEREAS, victims should have help to find the compassion, comfort and healing they need, and domestic abusers should be punished to the full extent of the law; and

WHEREAS, fleeing domestic violence has caused women and children to be the fastest growing homeless population; and

WHEREAS, powerful partnerships exist locally between the City of Orlando Police Department, Harbor House of Central Florida, the State of Florida Department of Children and Families, the Howard Phillips Center for Children and Families and the Victim Service Center of Central Florida; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States and Congress as well as other federal agencies have expressed a commitment to eliminating domestic violence both nationally and internationally;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Buddy Dyer, Mayor of the City of Orlando, hereby do proclaim October 2016 as

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

in the City of Orlando in recognition of the important work done by domestic violence programs and victims' service providers, and urge all citizens to actively participate in the scheduled activities and programs sponsored by Harbor House of Central Florida, the Orange County Domestic Violence Task Force and other community organizations to work toward the elimination of personal and institutional violence against women and girls.