



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a crime that threatens the safety and lives of thousands of Floridians every year; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a pattern of behaviors that individuals use against their intimate partners or former partners to establish power and control; and

WHEREAS, while the State of Florida is recognized nationally as a leader in the creation of groundbreaking domestic violence programs, policies and services to survivors and their children, it remains a serious concern; and

WHEREAS, the 2015 Florida Department of Law Enforcement's Uniform Crime Report reflected 107,666 reported domestic violence incidences and 66,276 arrests for domestic violence crimes; and

WHEREAS, 199 individuals died as a result of domestic violence murder and manslaughter in 2015, resulting in 19.1 percent of all homicides; and

WHEREAS, in fiscal year 2015-2016, Florida's 42 certified domestic violence centers provided emergency shelter to 16,362 survivors of domestic violence and their children totaling 600,621 nights in shelter; and

WHEREAS, advocates in certified domestic violence centers provided 113,907 safety plans and responded to 95,412 hotline calls; the Florida Domestic Violence Hotline received an additional 27,587 calls; and

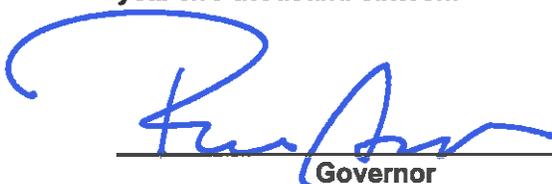
WHEREAS, partnerships between state agencies, nonprofit and private organizations, law enforcement and the courts, health care and legal providers, faith-based communities and educational institutions create a coordinated, efficient and cost-effective system of services for survivors and their children; and

WHEREAS, these partnerships and collaborations working collectively and creatively help to provide safety and resources to survivors, prevent initial acts of domestic violence and hold perpetrators accountable;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rick Scott, Governor of the State of Florida, do hereby recognize October 2016 as *Domestic Violence Awareness Month* and encourage all Floridians to work collectively to promote healthy and peaceful relationships and prevent domestic violence.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, the Capital, this third day of October, in the year two thousand sixteen.


Governor