

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
BOARD ACTION SUMMARY

DEPT: Chief Executive Office

BOARD AGENDA #: *A-4(c)

AGENDA DATE: September 19, 2017

SUBJECT:

Approval to Proclaim October 2017 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Stanislaus County

BOARD ACTION AS FOLLOWS:

No. 2017-485

On motion of Supervisor Withrow , Seconded by Supervisor Monteith
and approved by the following vote,

Ayes: Supervisors: Olsen, Withrow, Monteith, DeMartini, and Chairman Chiesa

Noes: Supervisors: None

Excused or Absent: Supervisors: None

Abstaining: Supervisor: None

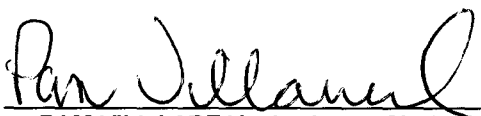
1) Approved as recommended

2) Denied

3) Approved as amended

4) Other:

MOTION:


PAM VILLARREAL, Assistant Clerk

ATTEST:

File No.

**THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF STANISLAUS
AGENDA ITEM**

DEPT: Chief Executive Office

BOARD AGENDA #: *A-4(c)

Urgent Routine

AGENDA DATE: September 19, 2017

CEO CONCURRENCE: *PHX*

4/5 Vote Required: Yes No

SUBJECT:

Approval to Proclaim October 2017 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Stanislaus County

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Proclaim October 2017 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Stanislaus County.

DISCUSSION:

The California Legislature has historically proclaimed October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month, calling attention to the devastating impact that Domestic Violence has on citizens in this state and the importance of agencies working together to prevent future violence.

In 2016, the California Attorney General statistics reported a total of 3,260 calls related to domestic violence in Stanislaus County. The California Attorney General's Office also reported that in 2015, of the 1,024 homicides in California, 14.9 % of the victims were killed by their spouse, parent or child. Statistics from the Family & Youth Services Bureau of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services reported that, in just one day in 2015 in the United States, over 31,500 adults and children fleeing domestic violence found refuge in a domestic violence emergency shelter or transitional housing program. That same day, domestic violence programs were unable to meet over 12,197 requests for services because of lack of funding, staffing, or other resources.

In a December 5, 2013 article by Dr. Robert Pearl, M.D. in Forbes Magazine, Dr. Pearl reported that Domestic violence costs an estimated \$8.3 billion in the U.S. annually, of which \$5.8 billion is for higher medical costs and \$2.5 billion is the estimated cost of lost productivity. He stated that addressing domestic violence starts with raising awareness.

Local non-profit organizations and county agencies are doing their part to support victims of Domestic Violence and increase Domestic Violence prevention efforts. The following are highlights for some of these performance results:

- To better meet survivors' needs, the Haven Women's Center (Haven) has increased privacy at their emergency shelter by renovating to allow each family their own room. In addition, pet enclosures have been added to allow residents to bring household pets with them. Haven has added advocates to assist with long term housing options for all clients, and expanded services to include a focus on adult sex

trafficking survivors. In the area of prevention, Haven has expanded the Healthy and Responsible Relationships Troop (HARRT) program, which is a youth led adolescent relationship abuse prevention model utilizing youth as peer educators. Haven turns 40 this year and is grateful for community partnerships and support and is looking forward to continued expansion in the future.

- Since it's opening in 2010, the Stanislaus Family Justice Center (SFJC) continues to provide legal services for restraining orders, child custody orders, divorces, and immigration. Other services are also provided through collaborative and coordinated efforts with partner agencies. The SFJC acts as the lead for the Strangulation Prevention Task Force in Stanislaus County. The task force provides training to first responders and advocates on how to provide appropriate services to victims of near-fatal strangulation. The task force is also working on a county-wide protocol for all individuals and agencies who have contact with victims of near-fatal strangulation. The SFJC sent 72 children affected by domestic violence and child abuse to Camp Hope and will soon be providing mental health services for clients. On-site partner agencies at the SFJC are the District Attorney, Haven Women's Center, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services, the Community Services Agency and the Sheriff's Office.
- Since July 2016, the Stanislaus District Attorney's Office has dedicated two Victim Advocate positions to respond to calls that come from the Modesto Police Department and the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Office for crimes involving victims, including victims of domestic violence. Advocates offer immediate assistance to victims at the scene of the crime, identify emergency housing and supplies needed, explain victim rights and follow up on services, support and referrals to appropriate agencies.

POLICY ISSUE:

The California Legislature has historically proclaimed October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS' PRIORITY:

The recommended action supports the Board's priority of A Safe Community by promoting community awareness regarding the negative impacts of Domestic Violence.

STAFFING IMPACT:

There is no staffing impact with this request.

Approval to Proclaim October 2017 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Stanislaus County

CONTACT PERSON:

Angelica Ramos, Senior Management Consultant 209-525-6333

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Proclamation

PROCLAMATION OF OCTOBER AS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, domestic violence affects people of all ages, racial, socioeconomic, educational, religious, and occupational segments of our society, especially children;

WHEREAS, in 1996 under Senate Concurrent Resolution Number 17, the State of California declared the month of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month;

WHEREAS, Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors approved the formation of the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council on August 29, 1995;

WHEREAS, it is the mission of the Family Domestic Violence Coordinating Council to reduce the incidents of domestic violence and abuse in Stanislaus County through effective coordination among agencies, departments, existing services and courts for individuals affected by domestic violence and abuse and through the prevention, intervention and treatment techniques accomplished through education, research and data collection;

WHEREAS, the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council will co-sponsor a day-long Conference on Offender Accountability, Supervising Those Victimized by Intimate Partner Violence, Understanding and Interviewing the Traumatized Victim and Caring for Yourself on November 3, 2017, at the Petersen Event Center, to encourage and promote public education and community awareness;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Stanislaus, State of California, does hereby proclaim October, 2017, as **Domestic Violence Awareness Month**; further they commend the commitment of the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council and other dedicated professionals who work to reduce the incidents of domestic violence and abuse in Stanislaus County, and to educate the community on the seriousness of domestic violence.