## PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS,

National Domestic Violence Awareness Month was established in October 1987 to create a dialogue about violence, to advocate for legislation and protections for survivors, to educate leaders, and to encourage public awareness and action against abuse; and

WHEREAS.

domestic violence is a direct cause of homelessness for more than half of women experiencing homelessness and is overall the third leading cause of homelessness in the United States; and

WHEREAS,

on average, 39 people per minute are physically abused by an intimate partner in the United States; and

WHEREAS,

domestic violence affects all, regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, ability, citizenship status, religion, culture, language, education, occupation or socioeconomic status; and

WHEREAS,

people of color, gender non-conforming people, members of the LGBTQ+ community, immigrants, refugees, people with disabilities and women are at elevated risks for domestic violence and experience increased barriers to accessing services; and

WHEREAS,

the City of Seattle invests in a comprehensive network of social services and a specialized criminal justice response to domestic violence that addresses the needs of survivors and holds abusers accountable for their actions; and

WHEREAS,

to change belief systems and practices that support violence and abuse that disproportionately affects women of color and other marginalized people requires the participation and commitment of the entire community; and

WHEREAS,

this year marks the 14<sup>th</sup> annual observance of Purple Thursday, a day recognized in cities across the country to encourage everyone to wear purple to bring attention to victims and support survivors of domestic violence; and

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## PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS,

Seattle is striving to become a place where domestic violence does not exist, all people embrace the spirit of non-violence, and everyone develops healthy relationships based on mutual respect;

NOW, THEREFORE I, JENNY A. DURKAN, MAYOR OF SEATTLE, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM OCTOBER 2019 TO BE

## **Domestic Violence Awareness Month**

AND OCTOBER 24, 2019 TO BE

**Purple Thursday** 

Mayor Jenny A. Durkan City of Seattle

