

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, all people have the right to live in a safe, accepting, and peaceful environment; and,

WHEREAS, domestic violence is a serious crime that affects people of all races, ages, gender, and income levels; it consists of psychological, physical, sexual, and emotional abuse to gain and maintain power and control; and,

WHEREAS, we believe that all people thrive more fully in an atmosphere free of fear and violence; however, there exists in our society a system of power, control, and domination which suppresses these rights and perpetrates violence without regards to age, gender, race, and religion; and,

WHEREAS, Metro Centers for Community Advocacy (Metro) and A Safe Space of St. Charles, Domestic Violence Advocacy and Support Program, are non-profit organizations that provide free and confidential services to women, children, teens, and male survivors in the areas of, St. Charles, St. John and St. James Parishes; and,

WHEREAS, these organizations help to enable families to regain their physical and emotional strength with the goal to provide assistance to anyone seeking help and this is accomplished through State, Federal, and Local grant monies as well as tax deductible monetary and material donations; and,

WHEREAS, St. Charles Parish commends Metro and A Safe Space of St. Charles for providing free and confidential services to survivors of trauma; for when survivors become stronger, the community is strengthened. To break the cycle of violence and aid survivors of domestic violence, is the mission of both organizations and is accomplished through advocacy, intervention, empowerment, and transformation.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, WE THE MEMBERS OF THE ST. CHARLES PARISH COUNCIL AND THE PARISH PRESIDENT, DO HEREBY IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE NATIONAL DOMESTIC VIOLENCE ORGANIZATION GUIDELINES, DECLARE THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2023 AS

"DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH"

IN ST. CHARLES PARISH.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, WE THE ST. CHARLES PARISH COUNCIL AND THE PARISH PRESIDENT, DO HEREBY URGE EVERYONE TO WEAR PURPLE RIBBONS AND PLANT A WINDMILL GARDEN IN THE MONTH OF OCTOBER TO SHOW SUPPORT TO ALL VICTIMS OF VIOLENCE, AND TO SHOW SUPPORT TO ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS, DISTRICT ATTORNEYS, AND JUDGES WHO DEDICATE THEMSELVES TO FINDING A SOLUTION TO THIS GROWING PROBLEM.



**MATTHEW JEWELL
PARISH PRESIDENT**



**DICK GIBBS
COUNCILMAN, DISTRICT III**



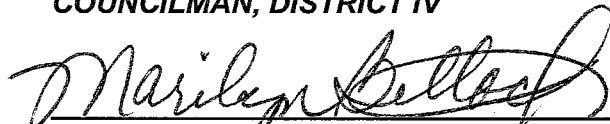
**BETH A. BILLINGS
COUNCILWOMAN AT LARGE, DIV. A**



**NICKY DUFRENE
COUNCILMAN, DISTRICT IV**



**HOLLY FONSECA
COUNCILWOMAN AT LARGE, DIV. B**



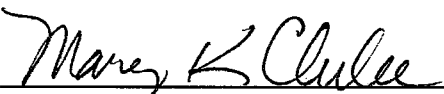
**MARILYN B. BELLOCK
COUNCILWOMAN, DISTRICT V**



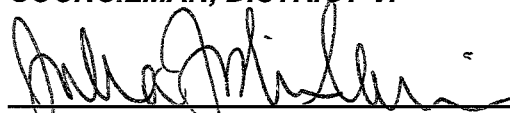
**LA SANDRA DARENSBOURG GORDON
COUNCILWOMAN, DISTRICT I**



**BOB FISHER
COUNCILMAN, DISTRICT VI**



**MARY K. CLULEE
COUNCILWOMAN, DISTRICT II**



**JULIA FISHER-CORMIER
COUNCILWOMAN, DISTRICT VII**