

MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

PROCLAMATION NO. 36

Proclaiming October 2025 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Multnomah County.

Multnomah County Finds:

- A. Domestic violence is a complex and pervasive problem in our community that affects individuals across economic, racial, gender, educational, religious, and societal lines. Domestic violence is not just physical, it can include emotional, mental, and financial abuse.
- B. Although domestic violence can affect anyone, the impact is not uniform. Survivors from historically oppressed populations, including individuals with disabilities, members of LGBTQI2S+ communities, immigrants, older adults, and women of color experience disproportionate rates of domestic violence. These disproportionate impacts are often a direct result of systemic barriers, inequities and inherent racism, sexism, homophobia, ableism, ageism, and other oppressions in our service systems. Recent and ongoing federal funding cuts threaten to further widen these inequities, leaving communities most impacted by violence with fewer resources and support.
- C. Nationally, one in three women, one in nine men and more than half of all trans and nonbinary people will experience domestic or sexual violence at some point in their lifetimes. Domestic violence affects us all; survivors are our family members, neighbors, coworkers, and friends.
- D. One in fifteen children are exposed to domestic violence every year and between 30 and 60 percent of perpetrators of intimate partner violence also abuse children in the home. Exposure to domestic violence harms children and places them at risk of experiencing further violence.
- E. Domestic violence is a leading cause of houselessness among women and their children in the United States. 63% of women experiencing homelessness report experiencing intimate partner violence. Nationally, over 80% of survivors entering shelters identify “finding housing I can afford” as an immediate need. An increased cost of living combined with reductions to funding for critical housing and safety programs have intensified the barriers survivors face when fleeing abuse and seeking long term stability.
- F. Financial abuse occurs in 99% of domestic violence cases, resulting in fraudulent debt, property damage, and lost income from the nearly 8 million missed days of paid work each year – the equivalent of more than 32,000 full-time jobs.

- G. From 2020-2024, there were 48 fatalities related to domestic violence in Multnomah County. This includes 40 homicide victims and 8 perpetrators. 60% of these victims were killed by an intimate partner, while 35% were killed by a family member.
- H. Multnomah County is committed to supporting the safety, dignity and self-determination of those who have been harmed by domestic violence, safeguarding the wellbeing of children who have been impacted by domestic and sexual violence, and providing appropriate intervention and accountability with domestic violence offenders.
- I. Multnomah County is a leader in addressing domestic violence through its prevention, public safety, and health and human services programs. Our cross-sector collaboration stretches across housing, criminal justice, law enforcement, community-based services, and more. While our programs are dedicated and passionate about serving survivors and their families, we know the needs are far greater than our current system can address. These needs are only deepened by federal funding reductions that diminish local capacity to provide lifesaving services, making county and community based services more essential than ever. We are committed to continuously working toward a future where all survivors and their families can find safety and stability in Multnomah County.

Multnomah County Proclaims:

October 2025 to be Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Multnomah County. We urge all Multnomah County residents to actively work towards the elimination of domestic violence by supporting and believing survivors and promoting healthy, respectful relationships.

ADOPTED this 1st day of October, 2025.

REVIEWED:
JENNY M. MADKOUR, COUNTY ATTORNEY
FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON



By _____
Jenny M. Madkour, County Attorney

SUBMITTED BY: Lori Stegmann, Youth and Family Services Division Director and Rhea DuMont, Manager, Multnomah County Domestic and Sexual Violence Coordination Office