

# The State of Washington



## Proclamation

*WHEREAS*, domestic violence is a serious crime that affects people of all races, ages, gender, and income levels; and

*WHEREAS*, domestic violence follows a pattern of assault that devastates an individual's dignity, security, and humanity; and

*WHEREAS*, children who are abused often become adults who inflict violence on others, spurring a tragic cycle of violence; and

*WHEREAS*, breaking this vicious and criminal cycle requires not only the strength of survivors, but also the support and participation of community members; and

*WHEREAS*, communities in Washington have responded through domestic violence prevention programs, crisis shelters, counseling, and other support services; and

*WHEREAS*, Domestic Violence Awareness Month is an opportunity for citizens to learn more about preventing domestic violence, and to show support for the numerous organizations and individuals who provide critical advocacy, services, and assistance to victims;

*NOW, THEREFORE*, I, Christine O. Gregoire, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim October 2010 as

### *DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH*

in Washington State, and I urge all citizens to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 10<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2010

Governor Christine O. Gregoire

