

Office of the Mayor

Proclamation

Whereas:

In just one day, across the U.S. and its territories, nearly 75,000 victims of domestic violence sought services from domestic violence programs and shelters. That same day, more than 9,000 requests for services, including emergency shelter, housing, transportation, childcare, and legal representation, could not be provided because programs lacked the resources to meet victims' needs; and

WHEREAS: The impact of domestic violence is wide-ranging, directly affecting individuals and society as a whole, here in this community, throughout the United States and the world; and

WHEREAS: Racism, homophobia, transphobia, ageism, and discrimination based on physical ability, nationality, or other factors help to perpetuate domestic violence and make finding safety even more difficult for some victims; and

WHEREAS: The need for a safe house continues to be rated as survivors' most urgent need; and

WHEREAS: Lima joins with others across Ohio and the nation in supporting victims of domestic violence, as well as local programs, state coalitions, national organizations, and other agencies nationwide that are committed to increasing public awareness of domestic violence and sending a clear message to abusers that domestic violence is not tolerated in Lima; and

WHEREAS: Domestic violence impacts millions of people each year, but it can be prevented. Preventing domestic violence requires the collective voice and power of individuals, families, institutions, and systems; and

WHEREAS: In the City of Lima, in recognition of the important work done by survivors, domestic violence programs, and victim service providers, I urge all citizens to actively participate in the scheduled activities and programs.

NOW THEREFORE: I, Sharetta Smith, Mayor of the City of Lima, Ohio, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2023 as

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

in the City of Lima and urge all citizens to actively participate in the scheduled activities and programs

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Seal of the City of Lima, Ohio, this 2nd day of October 2023.



**SHARETTA SMITH, MAYOR
CITY OF LIMA, OHIO**