WHEREAS, each day across the U.S. and its territories, more than 79,000 victims of domestic violence seek services from domestic violence programs and shelters that can mean the difference between life and death, can provide a way to escape, and can give survivors a chance for a new life; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence shows itself not only in physical abuse, but in emotional and mental abuse that together or separately creates a situation that is incredibly hard to leave, heal from, and overcome; and

WHEREAS, the impact of domestic violence is wide-ranging, and the crime does not know race, age, gender, or income, with effects that can be felt in all facets of society, here in Clay County, and across the U.S.; and

WHEREAS, leaving a domestic violence situation is incredibly difficult, and can take time, and the need for safe housing continues to be among survivors' most urgent needs, along with other necessary resources; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence impacts millions of people each year, but it can be prevented with the collective voice and power of individuals, families, institutions, and systems, along with the understanding that domestic violence affects all walks of life, and talking about it can make a difference; and

WHEREAS, Clay County joins other counties across Florida and the nation in supporting survivors of domestic violence, and commends the local programs, state coalitions, national organizations, and other agencies that are committed to increasing public awareness of domestic violence by sending a clear message to abusers that domestic violence is not tolerated in Clay County.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of County Commissioners, Clay County, Florida, does hereby proclaim, October 2023, as

## DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH IN CLAY COUNTY

**DULY ADOPTED** by the Board of County Commissioners, Clay County, Florida this 10<sup>th</sup> day of October 2023.

## ATTEST:

## **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CLAY COUNTY, FLORIDA**

Betsy Condon, Chairman

Jim Renninger, Vice Chairman

Mike Cella

Alexandra Compere

Tara S. Green Clerk of Court & Comptroller Ex Officio Clerk of the Board

## Kristen Burke, DC