September 27, 2023

WHEREAS, October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, a time to acknowledge domestic violence survivors and be a voice for its victims by raising awareness, and supporting survivors of this common but devastating issue; This year's theme is "It's in our control to end coercive control;" and

WHEREAS, domestic violence is prevalent in every community, and affects all people regardless of age, socio-economic status, sexual orientation, gender, race, religion, or nationality; and

WHEREAS, on average, nearly 20 people per minute are physically abused by an intimate partner in the United States. During one year, this equates to more than 10 million women and men; Also, women abused by their intimate partners are more vulnerable to contracting HIV or other STI's due to forced intercourse or prolonged exposure to stress; and

WHEREAS, physical violence is often accompanied by emotionally abusive and controlling behavior as part of a much larger, systematic pattern of dominance and control. Domestic violence can result in physical injury, psychological trauma, and even death; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence incidents affect every person within a home and can have long-lasting negative effects on children's emotional well-being, and social and academic functioning; and

WHEREAS, National Domestic Violence Awareness Month is a time to remind victims that it is possible to escape their abuser, change their circumstances, and to find the help they need.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Ocean County Board of Health, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey proclaims October 2023 as **National Domestic Violence Awareness Month** in Ocean County to increase awareness of the dangers and issues associated with domestic violence.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution will be forwarded to the Ocean County Board of Commissioners and made available for participating municipalities and to other interested individuals on the Ocean County Health Department website.

Name	Bacchione	Gupta	Hill	Kubiel	Laureigh	Mancini	Scaturro	Singer	Mallon
Ayes									
Abstain									
Nays									*
Absent			/						

Secretary/Treasurer