

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, home should be a place of warmth, unconditional love, safety, and peace. Tragically, for many Americans, these are blessings that are tarnished by violence and fear. Domestic violence touches the lives of Americans of all ages, leaving a devastating impact on women, men, and children of every background and circumstance. A family's home becomes a place of fear, hopelessness, and desperation when a woman is battered by her partner, a child witnesses the abuse of a loved one, or a senior is victimized by family members; and

WHEREAS, domestic violence remains a major public health, social justice, and human rights issue requiring particular attention, and its interventions must be with the inclusion of both women and men at all levels. There is an urgent need, more than ever, to get involved. The wide prevalence of domestic violence and sexual assault, along with the shocking silence and inaction around these issues, compels all of us to come together and get involved to end the abusive violence in our relationships, in our families, and in our communities; and

WHEREAS, since 1983, El Refugio has been actively involved in addressing domestic violence in our community. El Refugio has collaborated with numerous people and groups to respond, educate, and bring awareness to all people about domestic violence. Last year El Refugio, Incorporated served 271 women victims, 128 children, and 72 offenders. To this end, El Refugio, Incorporated invites all of us to support October 2015 as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month," and it will be dedicated to "This Community Values Healthy Relationships, This Community Values Life and Wellness." This campaign underscores the urgent need for involvement by taking action, speaking out, breaking our silence, and seeking help when we see this problem in our life, in our family, and in our community;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Mayor Michael S. Morones, do hereby proclaim the month of October, 2015 as

"Domestic Violence Awareness Month"

and urge all citizens to observe this month by becoming aware of the tragedy of domestic violence, support those who are working toward its end, and make a personal commitment to get involved in **"This Community Values Healthy Relationships, This Community Values Life and Wellness."**

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused this official seal of the Town of Silver City to be affixed this 22nd day of September, 2015.

Michael S. Morones, Mayor
Attest:

Ann L. Mackie, Town Clerk