



Executive Department  
State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor  
**Proclamation**

State Capitol  
Boise

WHEREAS, Idaho needs to create compassionate communities with respect, safety, equity and justice for all human beings, where gender-based violence against women and children is no longer a common occurrence and violence in all our communities is no longer accepted; and

WHEREAS, living a life free of violence is a basic human right for everyone and goes against our values when women and girls, men and boys experience or are exposed to domestic violence or any other form of gender-based violence; and

WHEREAS, one in four women experience domestic violence in their lifetime and over 15 million children witness domestic violence each year in the United States, and each day in Idaho more than 519 women and girls, men and boys impacted by violence seek safety and life-saving services from community-based and tribal domestic violence programs; and

WHEREAS, in 2013 Idaho had 14 domestic violence-related fatalities and as of August 2014 there have been five domestic violence-related fatalities— even one is too many; and

WHEREAS, the problem of domestic violence is not confined to any group or groups of people, but crosses all economic, racial, ethnic, gender identity or sexual orientation, educational, religious, and societal barriers, and is sustained by societal indifference; and

WHEREAS, compassionate communities can create the conditions for resilience where anyone who has been impacted by violence knows how to seek help when needed – from survivor-centered, trauma-informed, accessible services to health care to affordable housing or other supportive services; and

WHEREAS, compassionate communities can create the conditions for conscious parenting so families exposed to violence can have authentic, loving and connected relationships with their children; and

WHEREAS, compassionate communities can create the conditions for nurturing so families can care for children from their own wholeness; and

WHEREAS, compassionate communities can create the conditions for equity where families in all communities can meet their basic needs and thrive; and

WHEREAS, compassionate communities can create conditions for mindfulness where parents can learn to be ever present alongside their children, on purpose and without judgment; and

WHEREAS, the Idaho Council on Domestic Violence & Victim Assistance, the Idaho Coalition Against Sexual & Domestic Violence, and our community and statewide partners are committed to working together collaboratively to achieve compassionate, peaceful and interconnected communities free from violence;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim October 2014 to be

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

in Idaho and urge all citizens to actively work towards the elimination of domestic violence in our society and to reach out to anyone you know in an unhealthy or abusive relationship to let them know that you care and that help is available.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand and fourteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred thirty-ninth and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred twenty-fifth.

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER  
GOVERNOR

BEN YURSA  
SECRETARY OF STATE