

City of El Paso de Robles
Proclamation

Domestic Violence Awareness Month
October 2004

W*HEREAS*, home should be a place of warmth, unconditional love, tranquility, and security, yet tragically, for many Americans, homes and families are tarnished by violence and fear, where domestic violence is more than an occasional family dispute; and

W*HEREAS*, more than three women are murdered by their husbands or boyfriends in this country everyday, and it is estimated that every nine seconds in the United States an incident of violence occurs against a woman by her partner, and domestic violence violates an individual's privacy, dignity and humanity due to the systematic use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological and economic control or abuse; and

W*HEREAS*, domestic violence affects not only the couple involved but all the family members, including children and teens and that 50% of shelter clients are children and may go unaided, it is imperative that we take steps to stop the violence, so that future generations will not grow up to be victims or batterers, therefore, the theme for 2004 is **"Domestic Violence...Leaves an Empty Place at the Table,"** our goal is to prevent domestic violence through education and outreach through the community and our schools; and

W*HEREAS*, the North County Women's Shelter and Resource Center, offers a variety of services in English and Spanish to victims of domestic violence and their children, including two 24-hour shelters, a temporary restraining order clinic, individual and family counseling, school outreach, and support groups, and our community's awareness and intolerance of domestic violence helps to ensure the safety and health of our families.

N*OW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED* that I, Frank Mecham, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor and speaking on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby proclaim October 2004, as **Domestic Violence Awareness Month**, and urge all citizens to learn more about domestic violence and the services available to our citizens, by taking active steps to protect ourselves from violence and join with others to make the City of Paso Robles a safer place to live.

Frank R. Mecham, Mayor