CITY OF EL CERRITO CITY COUNCIL PROCLAMATION Domestic Violence Awareness Month October 2010 WHEREAS, violence against women and children continues to become more prevalent as a social problem due to the imbalance of power in gender and age; and WHEREAS, the problems of domestic violence are not confined to any group or groups of people but cross all economic, racial and societal barriers and are supported by societal indifference: and WHEREAS, the crime of domestic violence violates an individual's privacy, dignity, security and humanity due to the systematic use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological and economic control and/or abuse; and WHEREAS, the impact of domestic violence is wide-ranging, directly affecting men, women, children, and society as a whole; and WHEREAS, it is battered women themselves who have been in the forefront of efforts to bring peace and equality to the home and all residents of Contra Costa County should feel safe in their homes, their schools, and their communities; and WHEREAS, STAND! for Families Free of Violence provides domestic violence services to families and individuals in Contra Costa County, serving over 2,500 clients annually and is a multi-service agency, providing: 24 hour crisis line, emergency and transitional shelter, legal advocacy, children and teen programs, counseling, support groups, employment training, batterer's treatment program, and educational prevention programs; and WHEREAS, only a coordinated community effort will put a stop to domestic violence and Domestic Violence Awareness Month provides an excellent opportunity for residents to learn more about preventing domestic violence and to show support for the numerous organizations and individuals who provide critical advocacy, services and assistance to victims. NOW THEREFORE the City Council of the City of El Cerrito does hereby proclaim October 2010 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in the City of El Cerrito, and urges all residents to actively participate in the efforts to eliminate violence in our homes, in our schools, and in our communities. Dated: September 20, 2010 Janet Abelson, Mayor