

# Proclamation

Domestic violence is the systematic use of coercion, threats, intimidation and domination to maintain power and control over an intimate partner. Tactics may include verbal, psychological, economic, physical or sexual violence.

Domestic violence knows no bounds, and is indiscriminating and potentially devastating. The abuser could be a current or former spouse, partner, boyfriend or girlfriend. Victims and abusers come from all ethnic, religious, educational and social backgrounds. Each year in the United States, between 1,200 and 1,500 women are murdered by a current or former partner, which averages to approximately three murders a day. As of August 31, 2010, there have been 10 deaths associated with domestic violence this year in Hawai'i.

There are currently nine domestic violence shelters and various services available in our state. Due to a lack of resources, many programs in Hawai'i reported a critical shortage of funds and staff to assist victims in need of housing, child care, mental health and substance abuse counseling and legal representation.


Raising awareness is vital to ending domestic violence. During the month of October, the Hawai'i State Coalition Against Domestic Violence is joining with local and national organizations to observe Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Oftentimes, domestic violence occurs behind closed doors. This year's theme "peace begins at home" aims at promoting awareness to communities across Hawai'i. By bringing awareness to this issue and advocating for the importance of safety for each and every member of our community, we will begin to heal the violence that has occurred and prevent future suffering.

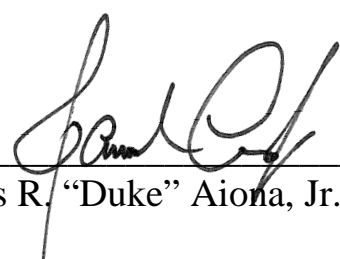
**THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor, and I, JAMES R. "DUKE" AIONA, JR.,** Lieutenant Governor of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim **October 2010**, as

## **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

in Hawai'i, and encourage our residents to learn more about this violent crime and help end domestic violence in our state.

**DONE** at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this twenty-ninth day of September 2010.

  
Linda Lingle

  
James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr.

Governor, State of Hawai'i

Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i