

Proclamation

City of St. Joseph, Missouri

Domestic Violence Awareness Month

WHEREAS, domestic violence is not confined to any specific group or people, it does not discriminate. The crime of domestic violence violates members of our community's privacy, dignity, security, and humanity in the form of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological, and economic abuse; and

WHEREAS, in 2008 the St. Joseph Police Department responded to more than 5,913 calls relating to domestic violence and the YWCA provided emergency shelter to 692 women and children; and

WHEREAS, Missouri Law Enforcement Agencies recorded 34,183 domestic violence incidents this past year, and statewide programs provided a safe place to stay to more than 10,400 victims but were forced to turn away 9,000 others due to lack of space; and

WHEREAS, advocates, professionals, volunteers, and community members concerned with domestic violence will devote the month of October to raising awareness on the causes, interventions, and prevention of this devastating crime;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Ken Shearin, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of St. Joseph, do hereby proclaim October 2009 as **Domestic Violence Awareness Month** in St. Joseph, Missouri.

FURTHERMORE, I urge all citizens to actively participate in the efforts to end domestic violence in our homes, in our schools, and in our community.

ISSUED: This 5th day of October, 2009

Ken Shearin
Mayor

