



# MULTNOMAH COUNTY AGENDA PLACEMENT REQUEST

(Revised March 2016)

## Board Clerk Use Only

**Meeting Date:** 10/6/16  
**Agenda Item #:** R.3  
**Est. Start Time:** 9:55 am approx.  
**Date Submitted:** 9/21/16

**Agenda Title:** **Briefing and Proclamation Proclaiming October 2016 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Multnomah County, Oregon**

*Note: Title should not be more than 2 lines but sufficient to describe the action requested. Title on APR must match title on Ordinance, Resolution, Order or Proclamation.*

**Requested Meeting Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Time Needed:** 30 minutes  
**Department:** County Human Services **Division:** Youth & Family Services  
**Contact(s):** Emily Purry  
**Phone:** 503/988-7917 **Ext.** 87917 **I/O Address:** 167/2/200  
**Presenter Name(s) & Title(s):** Rose Bak, Co-Director, DCHS Youth and Family Services Division; Patricia Rojas, Executive Director, El Programa Catòlico; Martha Strawn-Morris, Director, Gateway Center for Domestic Violence

## General Information

### 1. What action are you requesting from the Board?

We respectfully request that the Board of County Commissioners adopt the Proclamation declaring October 2016 as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in Multnomah County.

In recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month, the Office of Domestic Violence and its partners will provide an informational briefing on the current and emerging work underway to address sexual assault and domestic violence in Multnomah County.

### 2. Please provide sufficient background information for the Board and the public to understand this issue. Please note which Program Offer this action affects and how it impacts the results.

Domestic violence is a pattern of assaultive and coercive behaviors, including physical, psychological, sexual, social isolation, stalking, and economic abuse that individuals use to maintain power and control over their intimate partners. One in four women and one in ten men will be affected by domestic violence in their lifetimes. One out of fifteen children will witness domestic violence.

Children who are exposed to domestic violence experience feelings of terror, isolation, guilt, helplessness, and grief. They have a higher risk of engaging in criminal behavior, substance abuse and becoming victims of crime in the community;

The Multnomah County Domestic Violence Coordination Office (DVCO) provides a continuum of trauma-informed and culturally-responsive services to survivors of domestic and sexual violence and other community members. The prevention and intervention strategies developed and coordinated by DVCO are used by the city of Portland, Multnomah County and community agencies to promote individual, community, and societal level change.

To thrive after abuse, survivors and their children need safe housing, flexible economic resources, and other support that promotes stability. DVCO funds programs that provide ongoing connection with advocates, survivor support groups, economic empowerment programs, credit remediation assistance, housing, legal services and other supportive services.

Adopting the proclamation does not directly impact a program offer but will help promote awareness of the issue of domestic violence and the DVCO programs in place to prevent it and help survivors heal.

**3. Explain the fiscal impact (current year and ongoing).**

N/A

**4. Explain any legal and/or policy issues involved.**

N/A

**5. Explain any citizen and/or other government participation that has or will take place.**

N/A

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**Required Signature**

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**Elected  
Official or  
Department**

**Director:** Liesl Wendt /s/

**Date:** 09/21/2016