

STATE OF NEW MEXICO INDIAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor Lynn Trujillo, Secretary Nadine Padilla, Deputy Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Sherrie Catanach Public Relations, Indian Affairs Department <u>Sherrie.Catanach2@state.nm.us</u> (505)469-7599

October 20, 2021

Sec. Trujillo statement in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month

SANTA FE - New Mexico Indian Affairs Department (IAD) Cabinet Secretary Lynn Trujillo releases the following statement in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

"Domestic Violence Awareness Month is a time to remind our communities and people that there is help available. Oftentimes, domestic abuse is not discussed in our Tribal communities; as Secretary of the Indian Affairs Department, I remain committed to changing that narrative and to bringing attention to these critical issues that disproportionately impact our relatives and communities. We must work together to improve victim and survivor care by increasing awareness, providing platforms for survivors to share their stories of resilience, and enhancing services and resources.

According to a <u>report</u> by the National Commission on COVID-19 and Criminal Justice, incidences of domestic violence during lockdown jumped by 8.1 percent, making this a severe public health issue, especially for people of color.

During Domestic Violence Awareness Month, we urge Congress to renew the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Reauthorization Act of 2021 and acknowledge Intimate Partner Violence as a Public Health Emergency."

If you or someone you know is experiencing abuse and needs resources, you can call the National Domestic Violence 24/7 hotline at 1-800-799-SAFE (7233) or StrongHearts Native Helpline, Monday - Friday 7:00 am - 10:00 pm (CST), at 1-844-762-8483.

National and Statewide Domestic Violence Resources:

New Mexico Coalition Against Domestic Violence (nmcadv.org)
StrongHearts Native Helpline | For Supporters (strongheartshelpline.org)
Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women - CSVANW
Healthy relationships for young adults | love is respect
Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault and Stalking Helpline (newmexicolegalaid.org)
New Mexico Coalition of Sexual Assault Programs, Inc. (nmcsap.org)