



News Release

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City Plans Mayor's March Against Domestic Violence

ROCKFORD, Ill. – Mayor Tom McNamara today announced the first Mayor's March Against Domestic Violence. The walk will start at City Hall on Sunday, October 14, at 10 a.m.

To access services they need, survivors of domestic violence are required to travel throughout Winnebago County to dozens of locations. The march will stop at several of those places to show part of the path a survivor must travel to receive help. The two-mile march will make brief stops at the following locations:

- RAMP
- Winnebago County Courthouse/Zeke Giorgi Legal Clinic
- City of Rockford Human Services (on Church Street)
- Carrie Lynn Center
- City Hall

Earlier this year, Mayor McNamara created the Mayor's Office of Domestic Violence and Human Trafficking Prevention to coordinate city efforts and comprehensively tackle the problems of domestic violence and human trafficking.

According to the Rockford Police Department,:

- Domestic violence accounts for approximately 34 percent of Rockford's violent crime.
- Approximately 25 percent of the city's homeless population were without a residence as a result of domestic violence.
- 75 percent of juveniles arrested for violent offenses in Rockford in 2016 and 2017 either were the victims of domestic violence themselves or grew up in homes where domestic violence was prevalent.

The Mayor's March is sponsored by the City of Rockford, the Illinois Family Violence Coordinating Council and 13 WREX.