

Proclamation

FEMICIDE AWARENESS

WHEREAS, Women’s Day is celebrated nationwide on March 8th each year. The observation started in 1909 to honor the movement for women’s rights; and,

WHEREAS, Carrboro’s Town Council looks forward to acknowledging “International Women’s Day,” with the greater community to highlight the achievements, struggles, and ongoing fight for gender equality. While recognizing that women still face systemic barriers and violence; and,

WHEREAS the United States lacks a law recognizing femicide as a distinct crime from homicide, leading to a significant oversight in addressing the alarming rates of murder against women; and,

WHEREAS, femicide in the United States claims the lives of more than five women daily, constituting 70% of the total deaths of women in high-income countries. Shockingly, the occurrence of physical abuse is identified in 79% of all femicide cases in North Carolina, making it a significant predictor of such incidents; and,

WHEREAS, on a global scale, the United States ranks 34th in intentional homicides of women, with a rate of 2.6 murders per 100,000 women. The figure provided by the data analysis organization Statista places North Carolina as the sixth state with the most crimes of this type in the United States; and,

WHEREAS, recent cases of femicide in North Carolina, including the tragic death of Liliana Concha -a dedicated businesswoman and community volunteer- serve as a stark reminder of the immense work and the systemic changes still needed to combat this issue. Recognizing the deeply rooted social nature of gender-based violence, providing justice for victims and their families, enabling accurate data collection and research, and serving as a deterrent are compelling reasons to establish femicide as a crime; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Carrboro recognizes the importance of taking proactive measures to address gender-based violence and promote the safety and well-being of all residents, regardless of gender; and,

WHEREAS, the Town of Carrboro is committed to supporting legislative efforts to classify femicide as a distinct crime, ensuring that perpetrators are held accountable for their actions and that victims receive the justice they deserve; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Barbara M. Foushee, Mayor of the Town of Carrboro, do hereby proclaim March 8th as International Woman’s Day and call for its observance by all residents. Let us use this day to honor the achievements of women, raise awareness about gender-based violence, and advocate for policies that promote gender equality and justice for all.

This the 4th day of March 2025.

B.M. Foushee
Barbara M. Foushee

