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NATIONAL SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION SUPPORTS THE EFFORTS OF RIDESHARING PROGRAMS SUCH AS LYFT TO COMBAT DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, HUMAN TRAFFICKING, MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES RESULTING IN BODILY INJURY OR DEATH, AND SUPPORT FOR CRIME VICTIM SERVICE PROGRAMS

WHEREAS, domestic violence can be defined as a pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship that is used by one partner to gain or maintain power and control over an intimate partner¹, and;

WHEREAS, according to the National Center for Injury Prevention and Control, women experience about 4.8 million intimate partner-related physical assaults and rapes every year² and less than 20 percent of battered women sought medical treatment following an injury³, and;

WHEREAS, according to the CDC, one in four women and one in seven men will experience physical violence by their intimate partner at some point during their lifetimes in the United States⁴, and;

WHEREAS, about one in three women and nearly one in six men experience some form of sexual violence during their lifetimes⁵, and;

WHEREAS, in *A Blueprint for Domestic Violence Intervention* in Texas, the Texas Council on Family Violence lists transportation as a major issue for victims of domestic violence. Access to a car is a major factor in being able to obtain and sustain employment, ... and important in being able to maintain independence and safety. This is certainly true in rural areas, where no or limited public transit services make it impossible ... [for] women trying to gain access to domestic violence service providers or the legal system ... that access to transportation is an important need; in fact, it is critical to helping battered women maintain their independence and safety⁶, and;

WHEREAS, according to a survey done by the Institute of Women's Policy Research, 73 percent of respondents said they had stayed with an abusive partner longer than they wanted or returned to them for economic reasons but expressed optimism that with the right resources, they

¹ <https://now.org/resource/violence-against-women-in-the-united-states-statistic/#endref3>

² <https://now.org/resource/violence-against-women-in-the-united-states-statistic/#endref4>

³ <https://now.org/resource/violence-against-women-in-the-united-states-statistic/#endref5>

⁴ <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/intimatepartnerviolence/fastfact.html>

⁵ <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/intimatepartnerviolence/fastfact.html>

⁶ http://www.ncdsv.org/images/Transportation_TA.pdf

will flourish and thrive⁷, and;

WHEREAS, in that same survey, 66 percent said an abusive partner had [exerted control and influence] through tactics such as not allowing them access to money ... socially isolating the survivor, and controlling or monitoring their mobility, and;

WHEREAS, NHTSA reports that most impaired driving crashes happen during evenings and weekends, further reporting "...the rate of alcohol impairment among drivers involved in fatal crashes in 2017 was 3.6 times higher at night than during the day..." and 28% of all drivers involved in fatal crashes on weekends were alcohol-impaired, compared to 15% during the week⁸, and;

WHEREAS, Lyft has demonstrated efforts to address domestic violence, human trafficking, impaired driving and offer transportation support for victims of crime through its grants program offered through the National Sheriffs' Association's Domestic Violence and Crime Victim Services Committee, employee training with Business Ending Slavery and Trafficking, expanding its in-person driver education sessions at Driver Hubs and a driver education video, through its work on the Lyft Safety Advisory Council, and its in-app features to offer safer means of travel in rideshare services, and;

WHEREAS, access to transportation plays a critical role in the everyday lives of those in our communities. Across the country, the growth and popularity of Lyft and other on-demand ridesharing services have expanded access to safer, reliable, affordable transportation, thereby increasing communities' access to safety, economic empowerment, education, commerce, art, and culture, and creating safer roads for healthy, vibrant communities, and;

WHEREAS, the National Sheriffs' Association believes that a coordinated multidisciplinary approach—that includes providing equitable access to alternative modes of transportation for domestic violence victims, human trafficking and crime victims, and curbing victimization through preventing impaired driving—is necessary to improve the safety and quality of life in our communities, and;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Sheriffs' Association strongly supports the important role of Lyft and ridesharing efforts in providing support to domestic violence victims, human trafficking victims, motor vehicle crash victims and other victims of crime and thereby fostering safer communities, healthier cities, and more vibrant transportation.

⁷ <https://iwpr.org/publications/dreams-deferred-domestic-violence-survey-2018/>

⁸ <https://crashstats.hntsa.dot.gov/Api/Public/ViewPublication/812630>