

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in 1986, the Alexandria Victims of Violent Crime Task Force held a series of interagency work sessions and a public hearing to assess the adequacy of services to victims of crime; and

WHEREAS, throughout those discussions and in public testimony, issues related to domestic violence were raised repeatedly as problems requiring an improved system at all levels; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, the City of Alexandria developed a coordinated, interagency response and established the Domestic Violence Intervention Project, composed of staff from the Police Department, Commonwealth's Attorney's Office, Victim-Witness Assistance Program, Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court Service Unit, Adult Probation and Parole, and the Office on Women; and

WHEREAS, comprehensive policies and procedures for handling domestic violence cases were developed by each participating agency to ensure an effective and coordinated response; and

WHEREAS, these agencies continue to meet monthly and work together, with additional members having joined, including Legal Services of Northern Virginia, Alexandria Inova Hospital, Office of Sheriff, Office of the Magistrate, Department of Social Services, Health Department, Fire Department & EMS, Mental Health Center, and private citizens; and

WHEREAS, as we commemorate the 15-year anniversary of the Domestic Violence Intervention Project, the mission remains the same: to create conditions in which victims are provided with effective protection and services and assailants are held accountable for illegal behavior;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, KERRY J. DONLEY, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim the 15-year anniversary of the:

"DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROJECT"

in the City of Alexandria, and reaffirm the commitment of the City to the reduction and eventual elimination of violence in the home.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 11th day of February 2003.

KERRY J. DONLEY MAYOR
*On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia*

ATTEST:

Beverly I. Jett, CMC City Clerk