

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, families are the heart of our society and need to be strengthened and preserved and positive youth development is essential; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria supports excellent services that engage the entire community and improves the quality of life; and

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria is committed to a vibrant community where citizens have an opportunity to get involved by actively participating in dialogues on issues and shaping the future; and

WHEREAS, Alexandria has one of the highest teenage pregnancy rates in Northern Virginia; and

WHEREAS, in November 2000 Alexandria Campaign on Adolescent Pregnancy was established to focus community wide efforts on the goal of reducing Alexandria's teen pregnancy rate by 25% by 2005 through public awareness and education and direct service programming; and

WHEREAS, in 2003 Alexandria Campaign on Adolescent Pregnancy initiated the Parent Peer Educator Project that is designed to support parents in having discussions with their teens about love, sex and relationships; and

WHEREAS, children who feel connected to their parents, engage in meaningful conversations and clearly understand their parents' values concerning sexuality and relationships are more likely to avoid sexual risk taking behaviors; and

WHEREAS, October is National Let's Talk Month which emphasizes the importance of parents talking with their children openly and honestly about relationships and sexuality with the goal of young people developing responsible and positive attitudes;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM D. EUILLE, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2004, as:

"LET'S TALK MONTH"

in Alexandria, and I call upon our citizens to observe this month by supporting activities that focus on enhancing our efforts to reduce adolescent pregnancy.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 12th day of October 2004.

WILLIAM D. EUILLE MAYOR
*On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia*

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson, CMC City Clerk