

Alachua County Florida

A Proclamation

Declaring “Dating Violence Awareness Month” in Alachua County, Florida

Whereas youth are central to the growth and continuation of a safe and healthy community. It is a goal of this administration for our communities to be safe; and

Whereas, dating violence affects all Alachua County youth, crossing all racial, social, religious, ethnic, geographic, and economic groups; and

Whereas, one in four adolescents reports verbal, physical, emotional, or sexual violence each year, and one in five high school girls has been physically or sexually abused by a dating partner, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

Whereas, dating violence is associated with unhealthy sexual behaviors that can lead to unintended pregnancy, sexually-transmitted diseases, and HIV infections; abusive dating experiences during adolescence may disrupt normal development of self-esteem and body image; and

Whereas, adolescents in abusive relationships often carry these unhealthy patterns of violence into future relationships; and

Whereas, many of these cases can be prevented by helping adolescents develop skills for healthy relationships with others and this type of social change can only be addressed through the collective effort of committed community members.

Now, therefore, through the authority vested in me by the Board of County Commissioners of Alachua County, Florida, I do hereby proclaim February 2011 as “Dating Violence Awareness Month” in Alachua County, Florida.

Duly proclaimed this 8th day of February, A.D., 2011.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA

By: _____
Lee Pinkoson, Chair

ATTEST:

J.K. Irby, Clerk