

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria is dedicated to the positive development of our children and youth; and

WHEREAS, adolescent pregnancy continues to be a serious and complex national and local issue that impacts the social, economic, health and developmental outcomes of all our residents; and

WHEREAS, Alexandria has one of the highest teen pregnancy rate in Northern Virginia; and

WHEREAS, since 1991, Alexandria public and private youth-serving agencies have worked together to reduce adolescent pregnancy and promote services to adolescent parents; and

WHEREAS, in 2000, the Mayor's Blue Ribbon Task Force on Reducing Teen Pregnancy and the Interagency Consortium on Adolescent Pregnancy merged to form the Alexandria Campaign on Adolescent Pregnancy (ACAP) and Alexandria City Council appropriated \$100,000 in 2000 to achieve the goal of reducing teen pregnancy by 25 percent in five years and to initiate a media campaign; and

WHEREAS, ACAP successfully exceeded the City Council's teen pregnancy rate reduction goals and achieved a 54 percent rate reduction over a fifteen year period through culturally and age appropriate education, advocacy, technical assistance, direct service prevention programs and public awareness; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, ACAP launched the Keep it 360 youth-run, youth-led multimedia campaign which has successfully reached thousands of youth and adults with messages about prevention; and

WHEREAS, between 2012 and 2013, the teen pregnancy rate in Alexandria dropped nearly 20 percent; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, ACAP was awarded a federal grant from the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services and has successfully reached hundreds of youth with evidence-based teen pregnancy and STI prevention education; and

WHEREAS, 2015 marks the fifteen year anniversary of the Alexandria Campaign on Adolescent Pregnancy.

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 Alexandria Campaign on Adolescent Pregnancy to be a vital and successful community coalition and a cornerstone of our City's youth development efforts. On the occasion of ACAP's fifteenth anniversary, we celebrate their dedication to youth advocacy and success in helping prevent adolescent pregnancies in Alexandria.

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 May, 2015.

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

ATTEST:

Jacqueline M. Henderson, MMC City Clerk