PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the City of Alexandria has a longstanding, demonstrated commitment to children, youth and families as articulated in the Children and Youth Community Plan vision statement, "All of Alexandria's children and youth thrive today and tomorrow"; and

WHEREAS, substance use and misuse present significant health, legal and social consequences for youth and can hinder personal, professional and academic success; and

WHEREAS, all youth deserve to grow up happy, healthy and drug-free; and

WHEREAS, communities across the country celebrate Red Ribbon Week each October, the largest alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention awareness campaign in the United States; and

WHEREAS, it takes a community to teach prevention; and

WHEREAS, Red Ribbon Week provides youth and adults with an opportunity to take a united and visible stand against drugs; and

WHEREAS, Red Ribbon Week activities are conducted through a collaboration between the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria, the Alexandria City Public Schools Family and Community Engagement Center, Northern Virginia Family Services, and the Mayor's Campaign to End Bullying.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ALYIA GASKINS, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby recognize October 23-31, 2025, as:

"RED RIBBON WEEK"

In the City of Alexandria and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 28^{th} day of October 2025.

1,111	R ALYIA GASKINS alf of the City Counci
of A	lexandria, Virginia
ATTEST:	