## 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**, since 1991 Alexandria public and private youth-serving agencies have worked together to reduce adolescent pregnancy and provide sexual health education to youth and their families; and

**WHEREAS**, sexual health education that gives young people age-appropriate, medically accurate information and answers to their questions about sex and relationships, without being shamed or judged has proven to positively impact young people's lives; and

WHEREAS, sexual health education helps young people learn how to have healthy relationships, make informed decisions, think critically about the world, be good allies to those who are marginalized, and love themselves for who they are; and

WHEREAS, research shows that culturally responsive and inclusive sexual health education helps young people develop the social and emotional skills they need to become caring and empathetic human beings and often leads to prevention of child sex abuse and dating and intimate partner violence; improved social/emotional learning; and increased media literacy; and

WHEREAS, the Alexandria Campaign on Adolescent Pregnancy and its partners are committed to working together to provide Alexandria youth with the sexual health information, comprehensive education and access to the care they deserve and need to live healthy lives; and

WHEREAS, since 2019, May has been recognized nationally as Sex Ed for All Month.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, ALYIA GASKINS**, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2025, as:

## "SEX ED FOR ALL MONTH"

In the City of Alexandria and we recognize this opportunity to raise awareness about the need for real commitment to sexual health education in Alexandria and communities across the country, 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 27<sup>th</sup> day of May 2025.

MAYOR ALYIA GASKINS On behalf of the City Council of Alexandria, Virginia	
ATTEST:	
Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk	