

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 succeeding today and tomorrow;” and

WHEREAS, youth alcohol use presents significant health, legal, and social consequences and can hinder personal, professional, and academic success; and

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

WHEREAS, communities across the country recognize Alcohol Awareness Month each April to increase public awareness of the consequences associated with youth alcohol use; and

WHEREAS, the Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition of Alexandria, and its partners, are committed to preventing youth alcohol use and promoting positive opportunities for Alexandria’s youth; and

WHEREAS, the Coalition’s work contributes to achieving Goal 1: All Children, Youth and families will be Physically Safe and Healthy, in the Children and Youth Community Plan; and

WHEREAS, teen use of alcohol in Alexandria among 8th, 10th, and 12th grade students decreased 44% between 2016 and 2025; and

WHEREAS, most youth in Alexandria report not using alcohol, a trend to get behind; and

WHEREAS, even small amounts of alcohol impact judgement, coordination, and decision-making; and

WHEREAS, excessive alcohol use is associated with adverse outcomes, including unintentional injuries, violence, and alcohol poisoning; and

WHEREAS, it takes a community to teach prevention; and

WHEREAS, as a community, we resolve to educate, inform, and empower Alexandria youth to make informed choices about their health and future so they have the knowledge and tools to thrive today, tomorrow, and in the years to come.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ALYIA GASKINS, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby recognize April 2026, as:

“ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH”

In the City of Alexandria and 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 28th day of April 2026.

MAYOR ALYIA GASKINS
On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST:

Gloria Sitton, CMC City Clerk