

## **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 rates 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 the Alexandria City Council appropriated \$100,000 to achieve the goal of reducing teen pregnancy by 25% in five years and to initiate a media campaign; and

**WHEREAS**, ACAP successfully exceeded City Council's teen pregnancy rate reduction goals and achieved a 54% 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**, since 2012 ACAP has implemented the Personal Responsibility Education Program through a grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and has successfully served thousands of youth with evidence-based teen pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections (STI) prevention education;

**WHEREAS**, in 2017 the adolescent pregnancy rate in Alexandria declined by 21%, achieving the lowest recorded rate in the City's history; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2018 ACAP hired six youth peer educators who have provided over nine hundred hours of service to the Alexandria community through workshops, panel discussions, Titan Takeover teen nights at all of the City's recreation centers, and hosted the 2018 Youth Leadership Conference; and

**WHEREAS**, May is the National Month to Prevent Teen Pregnancy; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, JUSTIN M. WILSON**, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2019, as:

### **"TEEN PREGNANCY PREVENTION MONTH"**

*In Alexandria, and I call upon our residents to observe this month by supporting activities and initiatives that focus on enhancing our efforts to reduce adolescent pregnancy.*

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 14<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2019.

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**MAYOR JUSTIN M. WILSON**

*On behalf of the City Council  
of Alexandria, Virginia*

*ATTEST:*

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*Gloria A. Sitton, CMC City Clerk*