

# Alachua County Florida

## A Proclamation

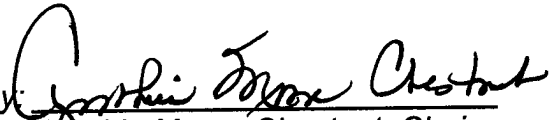
### Declaring "Dating Violence Awareness Month" in Alachua County, Florida

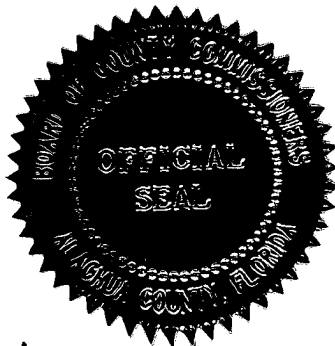
- Whereas,** Dating violence affects all Alachua County youth, crossing all racial, social, religious, ethnic, geographic, and economic groups; and
- Whereas,** One in four adolescents reports verbal, physical, emotional, or sexual violence each year, and one in five high school girls has been physically or sexually abused by a dating partner, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and
- Whereas,** Dating violence is associated with unhealthy sexual behaviors that can lead to unintended pregnancy, sexually-transmitted diseases, and HIV infections; and
- Whereas,** Abusive dating experiences during adolescence may disrupt normal development of self-esteem and body image; and
- Whereas,** Adolescents in abusive relationships often carry these unhealthy patterns of violence into future relationships; and
- Whereas,** Many of these cases can be prevented by helping adolescents develop skills for healthy relationships with others and this type of social change can only be addressed through the collective effort of committed community members.

**Now, therefore,** through the authority vested in me by the Board of County Commissioners of Alachua County, Florida, I do hereby proclaim February 2010 as "Dating Violence Awareness Month" in Alachua County, Florida.

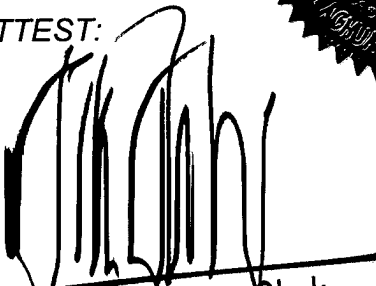
Duly proclaimed this 9<sup>th</sup> day of February, A.D., 2010.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF ALACHUA COUNTY, FLORIDA

By:   
Cynthia Moore Chestnut, Chair



ATTEST:



# *Proclamation*

## Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month

WHEREAS, youth are central to the growth and continuation of a safe and healthy community; and

WHEREAS, dating violence affects all Alachua County youth, crossing all racial, social, religious, ethnic, geographic, and economic groups; and

WHEREAS, one in four adolescents reports verbal, physical, emotional, or sexual violence each year, and one in five high school girls has been physically or sexually abused by a dating partner, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; and

WHEREAS, dating violence is associated with unhealthy sexual behaviors that can lead to unintended pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, and HIV infections; and

WHEREAS, abusive dating experiences during adolescence may disrupt normal development of self-esteem and body image; and

WHEREAS, adolescents in abusive relationships often carry these unhealthy patterns of violence into future relationships; and

WHEREAS, many of these cases can be prevented by helping adolescents develop skills for healthy relationships with others; and

WHEREAS, it is important to engage the broader community in addressing this issue;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that in recognition of the impact that dating violence has on the health and well-being of our community and the youth that we serve, the School Board of Alachua County does hereby proclaim February 2010 as *Dating Violence Awareness Month*.



*Dated this 2nd day of February 2010.*

*Virginia S. Childs*  
Virginia S. Childs, Chairman

ATTEST:

*W. Daniel Boyd, Jr.*  
W. Daniel Boyd, Jr., Superintendent