Office of the Mayor



WHEREAS, dating violence is a reality for many youth, and an issue that many are unaware of; and

WHEREAS, 1 in 3 young people are affected by physical, sexual or verbal dating violence, with 1 in 5 in a serious relationship reporting having been slapped, pushed, hit, threatened or coerced by a partner, and breakups can be a time of even greater risk even when a relationship was never physically abusive; and

WHEREAS, young people can choose better relationships when they understand that healthy relationships are based on respect and learn to identify early warning signs of an abusive relationship; and

WHEREAS, elimination of dating violence must be achieved through cooperation of individuals, organizations, and communities; and

WHEREAS, Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Month provides an excellent opportunity for citizens to learn more about preventing dating violence and to show support for the numerous organizations and individuals who provide critical advocacy, services and assistance to victims.

NOW, THEREFORE, let it be known that I, Jim Story, Mayor of the City of Bedford, and the City Council do hereby proclaim the month of February, 2010, as:

Dating Violence Awareness & Prevention Month

in Bedford and I urge our citizens to support this worthy cause.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Bedford to be affixed this 19th day of February, 2010.

JIM STORY, MAYOR