

City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County



JOINT PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, teen dating violence is a form of intimate partner violence that may include physical or sexual violence, psychological harm, stalking, economic abuse, or cyber abuse; and

WHEREAS, one in three U.S. teens will experience physical, sexual, or psychological abuse from someone they are in a relationship with before becoming adults; up to 9% of Charlotte-Mecklenburg high school students have disclosed being physically hurt by someone they were dating or going out with; and

WHEREAS, teen dating violence does not exist in isolation, but is often connected to other forms of interpersonal and community violence; teens who experience intimate partner violence are at higher risk of negative physical and behavioral health outcomes, as well as higher risk of experiencing relationship violence into adulthood; and

WHEREAS, by providing young people with education about healthy relationships and relationship skills, and by changing attitudes that support violence, we recognize that teen dating violence can be prevented; it is essential to raise community awareness and to provide training for adults to recognize and support teens who are experiencing unhealthy or abusive relationships; and

WHEREAS, the recognition of Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month benefits young people, their families, schools, and communities; and

WHEREAS, everyone deserves safe and healthy relationships and freedom from abuse:

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, Vi Alexander Lyles, Mayor of Charlotte, and Mark Jerrell, Chair of the Mecklenburg Board of County Commissioners, do hereby proclaim February 2025 as

"TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH"

in Charlotte and Mecklenburg County and commend its observance to all citizens.

WITNESS OUR HANDS and the official Seals of the City of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County.

Vi Alexander Lyles

Mayor

Mark Jerrell, Chair Mecklenburg Board of

County Commissioners