



PROCLAMATION

TEEN DATING VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, teen dating violence crosses race, gender, and socioeconomic lines; and

WHEREAS, nearly 1 in 11 female and approximately 1 in 14 male high school students have reported physical dating violence in the last year; and

WHEREAS, a violent relationship during adolescence can have serious ramifications for victims, including placing them at higher risk for substance abuse, eating disorders, risky sexual behavior, suicide, and adult re-victimization; and

WHEREAS, only 33 percent of affected teens tell someone they were being physically or sexually abused by a dating partner and 81 percent of parents surveyed believe dating violence is not a problem or admit they do not know it is a problem; and

WHEREAS, the City of El Mirage through El Mirage Cares and the El Mirage Police Department Victims Assistance Unit will work to educate youth and parents throughout the city to promote healthy relationships; and

WHEREAS, by providing young people and their parents with education about healthy relationships, building relationship skills, and by changing unhealthy behaviors, we recognize that dating violence can be prevented; and

WHEREAS, it is essential to raise awareness among communities and to provide training for teachers, counselors, school staff, and parents so that they may recognize when youth are exhibiting signs of dating violence;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Alexis Hermosillo, Mayor of the City of El Mirage, in the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim February 2022 as ***TEEN DATING VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND AWARENESS MONTH***.

Alexis A. Hermosillo, Mayor