

Proclamation

City of Longview, Washington



February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month



WHEREAS, high school students who experience physical violence in a dating relationship are more likely to use drugs and alcohol, are at a greater risk of suicide and have a higher tendency to carry patterns of abuse into future relationships; and

WHEREAS, young people victimized by a dating partner are more likely to engage in risky and unhealthy behaviors, therefore, normal development of self-esteem and body image may be disrupted; and

WHEREAS, nearly half of all teens who experience dating violence report that incidents of abuse took place in and around school property; and

WHEREAS, Only 33% of teens who are in an abusive relationship ever tell anyone about the abuse, and 81% of parents surveyed neither believe nor admit teen dating violence is an issue; and

WHEREAS, by providing young people with education about healthy relationships and changing attitudes that support violence, we recognize that dating violence can be prevented; and

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Don Jensen, Mayor of the City of Longview, Washington, do hereby proclaim the month of February as **Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month** and declare it is essential to raise awareness among communities to provide training to parents and teachers so they may recognize when youth, regardless of socioeconomic status, gender, sexual orientation, religion or ethnicity, are exhibiting signs of dating violence.*

*In witness whereof, I have hereunto set
my hand and caused the seal of the City
of Longview to be affixed this 14th day
of February 2019.*

Don Jensen, Mayor