

State of Texas \*  
\*  
County of Comal \*

# Proclamation

## RECOGNIZING FEBRUARY 2017 AS TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH IN COMAL COUNTY

WHEREAS, nearly 1.5 million high school students nationwide experience physical abuse from a dating partner in a single year; and

WHEREAS, violent behavior typically begins between the ages of 12 and 18; and

WHEREAS, one in three adolescent girls in the United States is a victim of physical, emotional, or verbal abuse from a dating partner, a figure that far exceeds victimization rates for other types of violence affecting youth; and

WHEREAS, victimization increases teens' risk for injury, substance abuse, eating disorders, unwanted pregnancy, and suicide; and

WHEREAS, only 33% of teens who are in an abusive relationship ever tell anyone about the abuse, and 81% of parents surveyed either believe teen dating violence is not an issue or admit they do not know if it is one; and

WHEREAS, females between the ages 16-24 are more vulnerable to intimate partner violence, experiencing abuse at a rate almost triple the national average; and

WHEREAS, it is essential to raise community awareness and to provide training for teachers, counselors, and school staff so they better recognize when youth are exhibiting signs of dating violence.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Comal County Commissioners Court does hereby recognize February 2017 as Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month in Comal County, and urge citizens to join the Crisis Center of Comal County in promoting healthy teen relationships, calling upon youth and adults to observe Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month with activities and conversations about respectful and non-violent relationships in their homes, schools, and communities.

PASSED AND APPROVED on this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2017.

  
Sherman Krause, County Judge

  
Donna Eccleston, Commissioner Pct 1

  
Scott Haag, Commissioner Pct 2

  
Kevin Webb, Commissioner Pct 3

  
Jen Crownover, Commissioner Pct 4

Attest:   
Bobbie Koepp, County Clerk

