



4141 Douglas Drive North • Crystal, Minnesota 55422-1696

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## **CITY OF CRYSTAL PROCLAMATION DECLARING OCTOBER AS BULLYING PREVENTION MONTH**

WHEREAS, more than 160,000 U.S. students stay home from school each day from fear of being bullied.

WHEREAS, bullying directly affects a student's ability to learn. Students who are bullied find it difficult to concentrate, show a decline in grades, and lose self-esteem, self-confidence, and self-worth.

WHEREAS, students who are bullied report more physical symptoms, such as headaches or stomachaches, and mental health issues, such as depression and anxiety, than other students.

WHEREAS, in some cases, bullying has led to devastating consequences, such as school shootings and suicide.

WHEREAS, bullying is a communitywide issue that must no longer be ignored or thought of as a rite of passage. Students, parents, and educators all have a role in addressing bullying situations and changing school culture.

WHEREAS, the two keys to creating change are: increasing awareness that bullying has lifelong impacts, and giving people the tools they need to respond effectively.

WHEREAS, students can be especially effective in bullying intervention. More than 55 percent of bullying situations will stop when a peer intervenes. Student education of how to address bullying for peers is critical, as is the support of adults.

WHEREAS, silence is no longer an acceptable response to bullying. Adults, students, and educators can no longer look away when they see bullying. Ignoring it won't work. Everyone needs to be empowered with options to respond.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS PROCLAIMED, I, ReNae J. Bowman, Mayor of the City of Crystal proclaim the month of October as Bullying Prevention Month and urge the citizens of Crystal to work together to eliminate bullying from our community.

Dated: October 2, 2012

By:   
ReNae J. Bowman, Mayor



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## **CITY OF CRYSTAL PROCLAMATION DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, the family is the foundation of a safe and healthy community, it is a goal for our communities to be safe;

WHEREAS, domestic and sexual violence are pervasive and life-threatening crimes affecting millions of individuals across our nation regardless of age, economic status, race, religion, or education. Every day in the United States, an average of three women are killed by a current or former intimate partner;

WHEREAS, so far in 2012 at least 11 women, two children, and one man in Minnesota died as a result of domestic violence;

WHEREAS, children are particularly vulnerable as both victims of and witnesses to domestic violence. Children exposed to violence are more likely to attempt suicide, abuse drugs and alcohol, run away from home, engage in teenage prostitution, and commit sexual assault crimes.

WHEREAS, domestic violence severely impacts not only victims, but our entire communities. In addition to the devastating damage suffered by victims and their families, these crimes also have huge financial costs. The cost of intimate partner violence annually exceeds \$5.8 billion, including \$4.1 billion in direct healthcare expenses in the United States.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ReNae J. Bowman, Mayor of the City of Crystal, do hereby proclaim the month of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month and urge the citizens of Crystal to participate in the activities planned by battered women's programs and community organizations during this month. Citizens should also take this opportunity to educate themselves about the impact of domestic violence in Minnesota and to become familiar with resources and programs available. This month let us remember the victims of domestic violence, celebrate the survivors, and work together to eliminate violence against women and children from our community.

Dated: October 2, 2012

By:   
ReNae J. Bowman, Mayor