

WHEREAS, the residents of Margate are this city's most precious resource and ensuring their safety, well-being, and positive development is a priority and a responsibility that we all share; and

WHEREAS, 1 in 3 women and 1 in 4 men have been victims of physical violence by an intimate partner within their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, the exposure of young children to such violence is occurring at an alarming rate; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Advisory Board on Child Abuse and Neglect suggests that domestic violence may be the single major precursor to child abuse and fatalities in this country; and

WHEREAS, Women In Distress of Broward County, Inc. is the only nationally accredited, state-certified, full service domestic violence center, serving Broward County, through a 24-hour Crisis Intervention Hotline and Emergency Shelter, as well as offering counseling and support for victims and their children; and

WHEREAS, by providing individuals with education about healthy relationships, and by changing attitudes that support violence, we can work together to stop domestic violence for Margate residents.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tommy Ruzzano, Mayor of the City of Margate, do hereby proclaim the month of October 2017, as

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

in the City of Margate and urge all to respond to and work toward ending domestic violence by supporting their communities' efforts to empower and assist victims in finding and accessing the resources they need, and by promoting awareness and prevention of domestic violence in our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the City of Margate to be affixed this 18Th day of October 2017.

TOMMY RUZZANO, MAYOR