

PROCLAMATION **RECOGNITION OF FEBRUARY 2024** AS DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, one in three adolescents is a victim of physical, sexual, emotional, or verbal abuse from a dating partner; and

WHEREAS, the effects of dating violence impact youth in all communities and cuts across economic, racial, gender, and societal barriers: and

WHEREAS, respectful, supportive, and non-violent relationships are key to safety, health, and academic success; and

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

WHEREAS, family, friends, teachers, coaches, faith leaders, community members, and other important people in young peoples' lives have the power to influence youth in positive ways; and

WHEREAS, last year HCWC provided 31 dating violence prevention and healthy relationships presentations to 2,428 teens and young adults; and

WHEREAS, we must work together to raise awareness and promote healthy dating relationships with activities and conversations about mutually respectful and non-violent relationships in our homes, schools, and communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Hoppy Haden, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Judge of Caldwell County, Texas do hereby proclaim the month of February 2024 as Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month for teens and young adults.

And do hereby call upon the citizens of Caldwell County to work together to raise awareness and prevent dating violence in our community and beyond.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Seal of Caldwell County, Texas, this 13th day of February 2024.

Hoppy Haden Caldwell County Judge

WA B.J. Westmoreland

Commissioner, Precinct

Ed Theriot Commissioner, Precinct 3

Rusty Horne Commissioner, Precinct 2

Dyral Thomas Commissioner, Precinct 4

ATTEST: Teresa Rodriguez

Caldwell County Clerk