

***DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH***

*WHEREAS, domestic violence is a pattern of abusive behavior in any relationship that is used by one partner to gain or maintain power and control over their intimate partner; and*

*WHEREAS, the problems of domestic abuse are not confined to any one group of people but effect people across all economic status, race and ethnicity, sexual orientation, culture and society; and*

*WHEREAS, the crime of domestic violence violates an individual's privacy, dignity, security, and humanity, due to systematic use of physical, emotional, sexual, psychological and economic control and/or abuse; and*

*WHEREAS, the impact of domestic violence is wide-ranging, directly affecting women, children, men, and society as a whole; and*

*WHEREAS, Hope Villages of America (formerly RCS Pinellas) has provided support, safety, and advocacy to domestic violence survivors and their children throughout Pinellas County for more than 50 years.*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, MIKE WILKINSON, Mayor of the Town of Belleair, Florida, do hereby proclaim October to be*

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*in Belleair, and I urge residents to actively participate in the activities and programs sponsored by Hope Villages of America to work toward the elimination of violence.*

*GIVEN under my hand and the seal of the  
TOWN OF BELLEAIR, FLORIDA, this  
19<sup>th</sup> day of OCTOBER, A.D., 2021.*

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***MIKE WILKINSON, MAYOR***