



## State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

### GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

**Whereas**, dating violence is a reality for many young people, and an issue that many are unaware of; and

**Whereas**, 1 in 3 young people is affected by physical, sexual, or verbal dating violence, with 1 in 5 in a serious relationship reporting having been slapped, pushed, hit, threatened or coerced by a partner, and breakups can be a time of even greater risk, even when a relationship was never physically abusive; and

**Whereas**, young people can choose better relationships when they understand that healthy relationships are based on respect and learn to identify early warning signs of an abusive relationship; and

**Whereas**, elimination of dating violence must be achieved through cooperation of individuals, organization, and communities; and

**Whereas**, Dating Violence Awareness Months provides an excellent opportunity for citizens to learn more about preventing dating violence and to show support for the numerous organizations and individuals who provide critical advocacy, services and assistance to victims;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, DONALD L. CARCIERI, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM,**

**February 2010**

**as**

### **Dating Violence Awareness Month**

in the State of Rhode Island and encourage all of its citizens to join me in recognizing the importance of this month.

**In recognition whereof**, I have hereby set my hand and caused the Seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations to be hereunto affixed this 1st day of February 2010.



**Donald L. Carcieri**  
Governor

**A. Ralph Mollis**  
Secretary of State