

**WHEREAS**, the tragedy of domestic violence touches all our lives by weakening families, leaving emotional scars as devastating as physical ones, and creating a destructive cycle of violence where those who were abused as children may become abusers themselves; and

**WHEREAS**, domestic violence is a major crime wherein 4.8 million women are battered every year in the United States and 190 people were killed in Florida, and it is a major police concern with police producing 9,720 domestic abuse reports in Broward in 1999 and 20 reported deaths in the same year; and

**WHEREAS**, the president of the United States and the Governor of the State of Florida have declared October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month in an effort to raise awareness of the national and local problem of domestic violence; and

**WHEREAS**, both the state and federal governments have established domestic violence hotlines where victims of domestic violence can turn for help and shelter and whose hotlines provide assistance to more that 10,000 victims each month nationwide; and

**WHEREAS**, Women in Distress of Broward County, Inc. has operated shelters for 26 years in Fort Lauderdale and Hollywood and is the only state certified domestic violence assistance agency in Broward County promoting S.A.F.E. (Stop Abuse For Everyone) to raise awareness in the community as well as to provide shelter for victims of domestic violence; and

**WHEREAS**, several events have been scheduled throughout the month of October to highlight domestic violence awareness month, including S.A.F.E. Walk on October 7, Athletes Against Domestic Violence on October 17, and a Memorial Service Riverwalk in partnership with the Broward Domestic Violence Council on October 26, 2000.

**WHEREAS**, with increased awareness, strengthened prevention, and communities united in a common cause, we are making the reduction of domestic violence a reality and the dream of ending it one day a possibility.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT PROCLAIMED** that the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Davie hereby proclaim October, 2000 as;

### **DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH**

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2000.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Harry Venis, Mayor**