



PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS, More than 700,000 teenagers become pregnant in the United States each year; and
- WHEREAS, Despite progress over the last decade, nearly three in ten teenagers in the United States become pregnant before the age of 20, the highest teen pregnancy rate among comparable countries; and
- WHEREAS, Teen pregnancy is closely linked to a number of critical social issues such as poverty, educational attainment, involvement with the criminal justice and child welfare systems, and more; and
- WHEREAS, Teen childbearing costs the taxpayers of Monroe County at least \$698, 000 per year; and
- WHEREAS, One in two sexually active young people with get an STI (Sexually Transmitted Infection) by age 25; and
- WHEREAS, Between 2006 and 2011, rates of bacterial STDs, including Chlamydia and gonorrhea in Monroe County increased 404% in those aged 19 and younger; and
- WHEREAS, A majority of adults agree that teens need information about abstinence AND about protection from STD and pregnancy; and
- WHEREAS, Comprehensive sexual health education gives teens the information and skills that lead to responsible decision-making.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Craig Cates, Mayor of the City of Key West, do hereby proclaim
May, 2013 as

Teen Pregnancy and Sexual Health Awareness Month

in the "Southernmost City of the Continental United States" I would like to urge all citizens, residents and visitors of our Southernmost City to participate fittingly in the observation.

WITNESS my hand and seal of the City of Key West, Florida, this 7th day of May 2013.

Craig Cates, MAYOR