Proclamation

"Start By Believing"
Public Awareness Campaign Support

September 26, 2013

***WHEREAS**, the Town of Prescott Valley shares a critical concern for victims of sexual violence and a desire to support their needs for justice and healing; and*

***WHEREAS,** the Center for Disease Control, 2012 Summary report estimates that as many as 1 in 5 women and 1 in 71 men are the victim of rape, yet most will not report the crime to law enforcement (U.S. Department of Justice, Victimization Not Reported to the Police, 2006-2010); and*

***WHEREAS,** research documents that victims are far more likely to disclose their sexual assault to a friend or family member, and when those loved ones respond with doubt, shame or blame, victims suffer additional negative effects on their physical and psychological well-being (Rape Abuse & Incest National Network); and*

***WHEREAS,** children that grow up in violent homes are believed to be abused and neglected at a rate higher than the national average; and*

***WHEREAS,** the "Start By Believing" public awareness campaign is designed to educate and lead the way toward stopping this cycle by creating a positive community response, informing the public, uniting allies and supporters, and improving our personal reactions, and help victims to access supportive resources and engage the criminal justice system, ultimately changing the outcomes for victims, one response at a time.*

***NOW THEREFORE**, I, Harvey C. Skoog, Mayor of the Town of Prescott Valley, Arizona, do hereby proclaim, in concert with the Prescott Valley Police Department, the support of the*

"Start By Believing" Public Awareness Campaign

and urge all of our citizens to also support these efforts of public awareness.

***IN WITNESS THEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Town of Prescott Valley to be affixed this 26th day of September, 2013.*

Harvey C. Skoog

HARVEY C. SKOOG
Mayor

ATTEST:

Diane Russell

DIANE RUSSELL
Town Clerk

TOWN OF PRESCOTT VALLEY 1978 FOUNDED 1966

Town of Prescott Valley