



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR, CITY OF GREENVILLE

Proclamation

WHEREAS, Red Dress Sunday/Sabbath celebrates the extraordinary progress in women's heart health and recognizes that more needs to be done in Greenville, North Carolina to safeguard women's health for generations to come;

WHEREAS, first, most women do not know that heart disease is a woman's problem and secondly, they do not take it seriously. Heart disease is the number one killer of women in the United States and one in four American women dies of heart disease. It is also a leading cause of disability among women;

WHEREAS, the risk factors for heart disease are smoking, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, overweight/obesity, physical inactivity, diabetes, a family history of early heart disease, and age;

WHEREAS, women can promote their own heart health and prevent disease and illness by taking steps to prevent and control the heart disease risk factors. Keeping women healthy and promoting awareness of women's health issues, including heart health, is an important responsibility and depends on the actions of many organizations and groups in our community. Women's health remains a priority for families, communities, and government, and our commitment to keeping women healthy is stronger than ever;

WHEREAS, all women are encouraged to take action to make heart health a priority for themselves and their families, become aware of their heart disease risk, and take action to control their risk;

WHEREAS, *The Heart Truth* campaign and its Red Dress symbol are building awareness of women's heart disease risk and empowering them to reduce their risk and prevent heart disease; and


WHEREAS, Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church recognizes that for African American women the risk of heart disease is especially great. Heart disease is more prevalent among black women and some of the factors that increase the risk of developing it are high blood pressure, overweight, and diabetes. More than 80 percent of midlife African American women are overweight or obese, 52 percent have high blood pressure, and 14 percent have been diagnosed with diabetes. Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church will lead the effort in wearing red on February 14, 2010.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Patricia C. Dunn, Mayor of the City of Greenville, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim February 14, 2010 as

WEAR RED SUNDAY/SABBATH DAY

in Greenville, and encourage all citizens to work together to promote and improve the health of women and increase awareness and understanding of women and heart disease.

This 2nd day of February, 2010.


Patricia C. Dunn, Mayor