

**NEWS RELEASE**  
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**Contact:**

Diana L. Klink  
757.514.4104  
757.359.1845



**RED RIBBON WEEK**

SUFFOLK, Virginia (October 21, 2011) Mayor Linda T. Johnson presented a Proclamation designating the week of October 23, 2011 through October 29, 2011 as “Red Ribbon Week” in the City of Suffolk. At the October 19<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting, representatives from the Suffolk Substance Abuse Youth, the Suffolk Youth Advisory Council and the Office on Youth made a public commitment and dedication to educate the citizens in the community about the effects of drug abuse of every kind.

During the week of October 23 – 29, 2011, youth in schools and churches will pledge to live a drug-free life style. As a way of showing support, the Substance Abuse Youth Council, in partnership with the Suffolk Youth Advisory Council, will host a poster contest in the Parks and Recreation afterschool programs. They are also asking the community to wear a red ribbon or the color red on Friday, October 28, 2011 to celebrate National Red Ribbon Week.

Red ribbons will be displayed and distributed throughout various City departments.

The displaying of red ribbons serves as a symbol of intolerance towards the use of drugs. The mission of the Red Ribbon Campaign is to present a unified and visible commitment towards the creation of a DRUG-FREE America.

For more information, please contact the Suffolk Office on Youth at 514-4503 or email at [syac@suffolk.va.us](mailto:syac@suffolk.va.us).

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