

**Southern Health Association
Resolution
Interpersonal Violence**

WHEREAS, violent and abusive behavior exacts a large toll on the physical and mental health of people in the South; and

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WHEREAS, victims of violence may be severely debilitated by fear, restriction in activity, and isolation; and

WHEREAS, physically abused women are at higher risk of drug and alcohol abuse; attempted suicide, child abuse, and mental health problems; and

WHEREAS, abused children experience delayed physical, emotional and social development; and

WHEREAS, suicide and homicide are among the leading causes of death of those aged 1-44; and

WHEREAS, homicide is the leading cause of death among black adolescent males in 2002; and

WHEREAS, the causes of violent and abusive behavior are complex and involve many factors;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, by the Southern Health Association that schools implement life skills and human relation curriculum that would teach alternatives to violence as a means of conflict resolution; and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, by the Southern Health Association that the public be educated about the numbers and significance of assault deaths and injuries; and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, by the Southern Health Association that a comprehensive approach to violence prevention be achieved through strengthening linkages among local, state, regional, and federal prevention resources.

That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Affiliate States Governor, the Secretary of the Cabinet of Health Services, the Commissioner for the Department of Public Health and members of the General assembly.

Ted Hanekamp, President
Southern Health Association

May 5, 2006
Date