



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

Sexual Assault Awareness Month – April 2022

WHEREAS, whether it is in the workplace, in our schools, within our social circles, or in the home, sexual violence is pervasive in our state and our country, harming people and communities across Wisconsin; and

WHEREAS, according to the Wisconsin Coalition Against Sexual Assault, one in three women, one in six men, and nearly half of transgender adults in our state will experience sexual violence at some point in their lives; and

WHEREAS, approximately one in 10 children in the United States will be sexually abused before the age of 18, and sexual harassment and assault remain pervasive issues on college campuses nationwide, with one in five women and one in 16 men experiencing sexual assault during their time in college; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that members of the LGBTQ community experience higher rates of sexual violence than their heterosexual peers; and

WHEREAS, we also recognize that Black, Indigenous, and people of color (BIPOC) are disproportionately impacted by sexual violence, and have long experienced harm by systemic responses that are rooted in racism; and

WHEREAS, it is clear that we cannot end sexual violence without ending racism, misogyny, homophobia, transphobia, and all forms of interpersonal and institutionalized oppression, and our state commends the BIPOC-led organizations, in particular, that have been at the forefront of the anti-sexual violence movement for decades; and

WHEREAS, as technology has evolved to become a major part of our everyday lives, we are reminded that sexual violence can happen anywhere, including in online spaces, and that for too long, harassment, bullying, and other forms of sexual violence have come to be expected as typical and unavoidable behaviors online; and

WHEREAS, the theme of this year's Sexual Assault Awareness Month, "Building Safe Online Spaces Together," encourages folks to create online communities centered around respect, inclusion, and safety, where sexual violence is taken seriously; and

WHEREAS, this month, the City of Milton honors and joins all victims and survivors of sexual violence, advocates, and dedicated organizations across our state in raising awareness of the prevalence of sexual violence, educating communities on how to prevent it, and calling on



corporate leaders and policy makers to implement and enforce systems and laws that ensure justice and accountability;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Anissa Welch, Mayor of the City of Milton, do hereby proclaim April 2022 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Signed this 6th day of April, 2022

Mayor Anissa M. Welch

Attest:

Jenny Salvo, City Clerk