

CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON

PROCLAMATION

- Whereas:*** In Washington State, 45% of women and 22% of men report having experienced sexual violence in their lifetime; and
- Whereas:*** In King County, 6,657 adults and children received sexual assault services at accredited Community Sexual Assault Programs last year; and
- Whereas:*** Nationally, 1 in 5 children under 18 are sexually abused; and in King County last year, 2,000 children and youth who have been sexually abused received services from the King County Sexual Assault Resource Center; and
- Whereas:*** In 2016, 18% of 10th graders in Washington reported that they had been made to engage in unwanted kissing or sexual contact; and
- Whereas:*** Negative impacts of sexual violence trauma on women, men, children and youth include fear, concern for safety, symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder, injury, and missed work or school; and
- Whereas:*** Working together to educate our community about sexual violence, supporting survivors when they come forward, speaking out against harmful attitudes and actions, and engaging in best-practice sexual violence prevention work helps end sexual violence.

Now, therefore, I, John Chelminiak, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington, join advocates and communities across King County in taking action to prevent sexual violence by standing with survivors and proclaiming April as:

SEXUAL ASSAULT MONTH

and ask all residents to commit to a safer future for all children, young adults, and families in our community.

John L. Chelminiak, Mayor
City of Bellevue