



City of Bellevue | Proclamation

Whereas: Sexual Assault Awareness Month calls attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and impacts many individuals in our community; and

Whereas: In Washington state, 45% of women and 22% of men report having experienced sexual violence in their lifetime; and

Whereas: In King County, 7,300 adults and children received specialized assistance from organizations with programming for sexual assault victims in 2018; and

Whereas: Demand for services at the King County Sexual Assault Resource Center jumped 19% last year; and

Whereas: Of the 4,888 individuals served by the King County Sexual Assault Resource Center in 2018, half were children; 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, we can help end sexual violence in our community.

Now, therefore, I, John Chelminiak, Mayor of the City of Bellevue, Washington, and on behalf of its City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of **April 2019** as:

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

and ask all residents to commit to a safer future, through education and prevention, for all children, young adults, and families in Bellevue.

John Chelminiak, Mayor
City of Bellevue