

**A PROCLAMATION OF THE
CITY OF FLAGLER BEACH
PROCLAIMING APRIL 2024 AS
"SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH"**

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month calls attention to the fact that sexual assault violence is widespread and impacts every person in this community; and

WHEREAS, rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment impact our community and statistics show that one in five women and one in 33 men will be raped at some point in their lives; that one in four boys and one in three girls will experience a sexual assault before age 18; youth ages 11-17 are 2.5 times as likely to be victims of rape or sexual assault and on campus one in five women and one in 16 men are sexually assaulted; and

WHEREAS, during 2023, Family Life Center, as the certified Rape Crisis Center in Flagler County, provided 65 sexual assault related community education events, 462 supportive services and answered 39 sexual assault crisis hot line calls for survivors of sexual assault and their families living in Flagler County; and

WHEREAS, the "Start By Believing" public awareness campaign (a program of End Violence Against Women International) is designed to improve the responses of friends, family members, and community professionals, so they can help sexual assault victims access supportive resources and engage the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, the City of Flagler Beach joins advocates and communities across the country because we are strongest when we raise our voices together to change the culture to prevent sexual violence. Prevention requires addressing the root causes and social norms that allow sexual violence to exist. April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and each day of the year is an opportunity to create change for the future.

WHEREAS, the Flagler County Advocate Alliance (comprised of Victim Advocates from the Bunnell Police Department, Family Life Center, Flagler Beach Police Department, Flagler County Sheriff's Office and the Office of the State Attorney, Seventh Judicial Circuit, Flagler) is hereby dedicated to strengthening victims and survivors in the aftermath of crime, building resilience in our communities and our victim responders, and working for a better future for all victims and survivors.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF FLAGLER BEACH does hereby proclaim April 2024 as "SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH", and do hereby encourage all citizens to support the "Start By Believing" public awareness campaign.

Adopted this _____ day of _____, 2024

Patti King, Mayor