



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the Crime Victim Rights Act was passed in Colorado in 1992, followed by the Federal Crime Victim Rights Act passing in 2004; and

WHEREAS, the term “victim” is more than just a label and has legal standing and protections that go along with it; which guarantees victims the right to meaningfully participate in the criminal justice process; and

WHEREAS, victim service providers, advocates, law enforcement officers, attorneys, and other allied professionals can help survivors find their justice by enforcing these rights; and

WHEREAS, victims of repeat victimization who fail to receive support services are at a greater risk for long-term consequences. Intervening early with services that support and empower victims provides a pathway to recovering from crime and abuse; and

WHEREAS, the victim services community in Fort Collins, as well as throughout Larimer County, has worked for decades to create an environment for victims that is safe, supportive, and effective; and

WHEREAS, honoring the rights of victims, including the right to be heard and treated with fairness, dignity, and respect; and working to meet victims’ needs rebuilds their trust in the criminal justice and social service systems and restores hope to victims and survivors, as well as their communities; and

WHEREAS, National Crime Victim Rights Week, April 23 – 29, 2023 is the perfect time to recommit that all victims of crime receive accessible, appropriate, and trauma-informed services, and ensuring equity and inclusion for all.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jeni Arndt, Mayor of the City of Fort Collins, do hereby proclaim the week of April 23 – 29, 2023 as:

CRIME VICTIM RIGHTS WEEK

Reaffirming the commitment to creating a victim service and criminal justice response that assists all victims of crime during Crime Victim Rights Week and throughout the year; and expressing our sincere gratitude and appreciation for those community members, victim service providers, and criminal justice professionals who are committed to improving our response to all victims of crime so they may find relevant assistance, support, justice, and peace.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the City of Fort Collins this 18th day of April, 2023.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk