



Sexual Assault Awareness Month

WHEREAS, April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM). Sexual Assault Awareness Month calls attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and impacts every person in the community. SAAM aims to raise public awareness about sexual violence and educate communities about how to prevent it; and

WHEREAS, systems of oppression such as racism, sexism, classism, heterosexism, ageism, ableism, etc. contribute to higher rates of sexual harassment, assault, and abuse. Unfortunately, those same groups are also the most impacted by inequitable systems of oppression in our society; and

WHEREAS, statistics show that more than one in four non-Hispanic Black women (29%) in the United States were raped in their lifetime; more than four in five American Indian and Alaska Native women (84.3%) have experienced violence in their lifetime; one in three Hispanic women (34.8%) reported unwanted sexual contact in their lifetime, 32.9% of adults with intellectual disabilities have experienced sexual violence; and 47% of all transgender people have been sexually assaulted at some point in their lives; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that it will take ending all forms of oppression to end sexual violence worldwide and making a connection between various forms of oppression and the underlying causes of sexual assault is crucial to making holistic and lasting change; and

WHEREAS, the theme of this year's Sexual Assault Awareness Month campaign is "Drawing Connections: Prevention Demands Equity". The campaign calls on all individuals, communities, organization, and institutions to change the systems surrounding us to build equity and respect within the community, workplace, and the future our youth hold.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John Gates, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the City of Greeley, do hereby proclaim April 2023 as **Sexual Assault Awareness Month** in Greeley and join communities across the country in taking action to prevent sexual violence and recognize that each day of the year is an opportunity to create change for the future.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the official seal of the City of Greeley, Colorado, this 4th day of April, 2023.

John Gates
Mayor