

Sexual Violence Awareness Month Proclamation

WHEREAS sexual violence is a widespread, preventable, public health problem, and the problem crosses all economic, racial, gender, educational, religious, and societal barriers; and

WHEREAS sexual violence is any sexual act that is perpetrated against someone's will, which includes sexual assault, rape, unwanted touching, threatened sexual violence, and verbal sexual harassment: all types of sexual violence involve victims who do not consent, are unable to consent, or refuse to allow the act; and

WHEREAS over half of women and nearly 1 in 3 men, experience some form of contact sexual violence in their lifetimes; and

WHEREAS One incident of rape is reported to Kansas law enforcement every 7 hours, 19 minutes, 6 seconds; over 5,300 people receive services for sexual assault from Kansas victim advocacy organizations each year; and

WHEREAS these statistics do not represent the true prevalence of sexual violence due to underreporting; and

WHEREAS victims should have help to find the compassion, comfort, and healing they need, with access to medical and legal services, counseling, transitional housing so that they can; and

WHEREAS it is important we must strive to create strong, connected communities that take care of one another and make decisions to ensure the safety and well-being of others to end sexual violence; and

WHEREAS we encourage victims to seek free and confidential assistance from the Alliance Against Family Violence Hotline (913-675-7217)

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Anthony McNeill, City of Lansing Mayor, do hereby proclaim April 2025 as NATIONAL SEXUAL VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH in the City of Lansing and urge all citizens to recognize this month.

Anthony R. McNeill, Mayor

Tish Sims, City Clerk