



# *A Proclamation Honoring Freedom House*

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*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 our community about how best to prevent it. Sexual assault’s prevalence is based on the widespread devastating abuse of power- one that affects people of every age, race, sex, gender identity, national origin, socioeconomic background, and religion; and*

**WHEREAS,** *rape and sexual assault are harmful within our community with over 53% of women and over 29% of men reported experiencing contact sexual violence at some point in their lifetime; and*

**WHEREAS,** *most women and men who experience contact sexual assault report knowing the individual who harmed them; and*

**WHEREAS,** *more than 1 in 4 non-Hispanic Black women in the United States (29%) were raped in their lifetime; and*

**WHEREAS,** *1 in 3 Hispanic women (34.8%) reported unwanted sexual contact in their lifetime; and*

**WHEREAS,** *more than 4 in 5 American Indian and Alaska Native women (84.3%) have experienced violence in their lifetime; and*

**WHEREAS,** *32.9% of adults with intellectual disabilities have experienced sexual violence; and*

**WHEREAS,** *47% of all transgender people have been sexually assaulted at some point in their lives;*

*2024 marks the twenty-third anniversary of Sexual Assault Awareness Month. This year’s theme “Building Connected Communities” draws on all individuals, communities, organizations, and institutions to change the systems surrounding us to build equality and respect within our community. Jointly we can publicly support victims, share educational information about assault and online harassment, and take a strong stance against victim-blaming comments.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Doyle Moss, Mayor of City of Willow Park, by virtue of the authority vested in me do hereby proclaim April 2024 as “Sexual Assault Awareness Month” in the City of Willow Park. We join Freedom House as they help survivors of sexual assault by supporting the eradication of sexual assault through improving victim safety and holding perpetrators accountable for their actions against members of our community.**

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have set my hand and caused the seal of Willow Park Texas, to be affixed this 26<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2024.**

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*Mayor Doyle Moss*

Attest:

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*Crystal R. Dozier, City Secretary*