



CITY OF KIRKLAND
Department of Parks & Community Services
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MEMORANDUM

To: Kurt Triplett, City Manager

From: Michael Cogle, Interim Director
Leslie R. Miller, Human Services Coordinator

Date: April 7, 2016

Subject: SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS PROCLAMATION

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Mayor proclaim April 2016 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Kirkland, Washington.

BACKGROUND DISCUSSION:

Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) is a campaign of the King County Sexual Assault Resource Center (KCSARC). The goal is to raise public awareness about sexual violence and educate communities on how to prevent it. Sexual violence is a major public health, human rights, and social justice issue.

Staff will post the proclamation online and provide access to the KCSARC resources through the City of Kirkland website, public television, and other social media.

After the proclamation, a short video will be played <https://www.youtube.com/embed/wNMZo31LziM>. The video is produced by itsonus.org and asks every individual to pledge to help keep women and men safe from sexual assault by identifying situations in which sexual assault may occur, intervening in situations where consent has not or cannot be given, and creating an environment in which sexual assault is unacceptable and survivors are supported.

KCSARC offers resources for victims, their families and the community. KCSARC is available 24-hours a day through their Resource Line (888-99-VOICE), which is staffed by professional advocates. This is the only resource of its kind in King County. KCSARC's content-rich website is also a good resource for tips on prevention as well as survivors and families.

www.kcsarc.org

Mary Ellen Stone, KCSARC's Executive Director, is happy to attend the April 19 Council meeting to accept the proclamation.



A PROCLAMATION OF THE CITY OF KIRKLAND

Designating April as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month" in Kirkland, Washington

WHEREAS, sexual violence is widespread and impacts every person in this community; and

WHEREAS, rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment harm our community, with the probability that one in five women and one in 71 men will be raped at some point in their lives; and

WHEREAS, child sexual abuse prevention must be a priority to confront the reality that one in six boys and one in four girls will experience a sexual assault before age 18 and, on campuses, one in five women and one in 16 men are sexually assaulted during their time in college; and

WHEREAS, in 2015, 64 Kirkland residents' lives were changed through King County Sexual Assault Resource Center services; and

WHEREAS, we must work together to educate our community about sexual violence prevention, to support survivors, and to speak out against harmful attitudes and actions; and

WHEREAS, prevention of sexual assault requires the entire community to get involved and take action to create a safer environment for all;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Amy Walen, Mayor of Kirkland, do hereby proclaim April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and join advocates and communities across King County in taking action to prevent sexual violence, and furthermore, proclaim that each day of the year is an opportunity to create change for the future.

Signed this 19th day of April, 2016

Amy Walen, Mayor