Proclamation No. 2024-02
Sexual Assault Awareness Month
April 2024

Whereas, nationally one in three women and one in four men will experience some form of sexual assault in their lifetime; and

Whereas, Sexual Assault Awareness Month draws attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and has implications for every community member; and

Whereas, there is compelling evidence that we can be successful in reducing sexual violence through prevention education, increased awareness, and holding perpetrators who commit acts of violence responsible for their actions; and

Whereas, we must work together to educate our community about what can be done to prevent sexual assault and how to support survivors; and

Whereas, anyone can be a leader in preventing and ending sexual violence. As employers, educators, parents, and friends, we all have an obligation to uphold the basic principle that every individual should be free from violence and fear; and

Whereas, sexual harassment, assault, and abuse can happen anywhere, including in online spaces. For too long harassment, cyberbullying, and sexual abuse and exploitation have come to be expected as typical and unavoidable behaviors online and

Whereas, the theme for **Sexual Assault Awareness Month** this year is "**Building Connected Communities**," we encourage every person to help build more connected, respectful and inclusive communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS PROCLAIMED by the Mayor and City Council of the City of Brevard, North Carolina, the month of April as **Sexual Assault Awareness Month** and urge the citizens of Brevard to work together to eliminate sexual assault from our community, to keep our community members safe from this crime and to stand with survivors and victims of sexual assault.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and cause the Seal of the City of Brevard to be affixed on this 1st day of April, 2024.

Maureen Copelof
Mayor

ATTEST:

Denise Hodsdon, CMC
City Clerk