



PROCLAMATION

Sexual Assault Awareness Month April 2018

WHEREAS: Sexual assault is a serious crime that affects people of all races, ages, genders, and income levels; and

WHEREAS: An estimated 20,000 women in Frederick City and County will be the victims of sexual assault or attempted assault in their lifetimes, and one in six men experience sexual violence before age 18; and

WHEREAS: Women between ages of 16 and 24 are at greatest risk for rape, and at least 40 percent of rapes are not reported to law enforcement; and

WHEREAS: Sexual assault is a threat to the physical and emotional health and well-being of residents of Frederick; and

WHEREAS: Sexual Assault Awareness Month provides an opportunity for citizens to learn more about preventing sexual violence and supporting victims to ensure they receive comprehensive care and to show support for the many organizations and individuals, both professional and volunteer, who provide critical advocacy, services, and assistance to victims; and

WHEREAS: Local law enforcement, Heartly House, The Child Advocacy Center, Frederick Memorial Hospital, Fort Detrick, and many additional community partners work to educate the community, including those most at risk, and respond to victims by offering compassionate services and support,

NOW THEREFORE, I, Michael O'Connor, Mayor of The City of Frederick, do hereby proclaim April 2018, Sexual Assault Awareness Month in The City of Frederick, and I urge all citizens to do what they can to advocate for the victims and support efforts to reduce and eliminate sexual assault.

Mayor Michael O'Connor

Aldermen:

Kelly Russell, President Pro-Tem.,

Derek Shackelford, Roger Wilson,

Donna Kuzemchak, Ben MacShane

