



PROCLAMATION

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, rape, sexual assault, sexual coercion, and sexual violence is a public health problem that impacts every community and affects people of all genders, sexual orientations, and ages; and

WHEREAS, sexual violence can occur in person, online, or through technology, including posting or sharing sexual pictures of someone without their consent; and

WHEREAS, nationally, over 53% of women and over 22.3% of men reported experiencing sexual violence involving physical contact during their lifetimes; and

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

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

WHEREAS, 1 in 2 American Indian and Alaska Native woman (56.1%) have experienced sexual violence in their lifetime, 1 in 3 Hispanic women (34.8%) reported unwanted sexual contact and 1 in 4 non-Hispanic Black women (29%) were raped in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, trauma from sexual violence may impact a survivor's employment due to time off from work, diminished performance, job loss, or inability to work, which can disrupt earning power and have a long-term effect on the economic well-being of survivors and their families; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 75% of sexual assault victimizations go unreported each year, underscoring the urgent need for trauma-informed reporting, financial assistance, advocacy, and comprehensive support services for survivors; and

WHEREAS, victim services, medical providers, law enforcement agencies, and court personnel across Arizona have made significant contributions to support victims and their family members in the healing process and the cycle of justice; and

WHEREAS, expanding prevention education, increasing awareness, building a strong continuum of victim services, and holding perpetrators accountable contribute to safer communities for all Arizonans.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mayor Alexis A. Hermosillo, do hereby proclaim **April 2026 as *SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH*** and ask that our community work to keep our community members safe from this crime, and to stand together with survivors and victims of sexual assault.

Alexis A. Hermosillo, Mayor