

PROCLAMATION

**OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF BEAVERTON**

WHEREAS, sexual violence is a serious issue that affects people of all ages, races, sexual orientations, gender identities, socio-economic levels, abilities, religions, backgrounds, citizenship status, and beliefs; and

WHEREAS, sexual violence includes physical, verbal, visual, emotional, psychological, social, spiritual, financial, and technological abuse; and can occur between intimate partners, family members, friends, acquaintances, and strangers; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that 52.2 million cisgender women, 27.6 million cisgender men, and 650,000 trans* people in the United States have experienced sexual violence at some point in their life; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that 43% of sexual assaults of women and girls occurred while the victim was a minor under the age of 18, and 81% of sexual assaults of women and girls occurred prior to the age of 25, and

WHEREAS, sexual violence results in victims navigating long-term mental and physical health effects including Post Traumatic Stress Injury, depression, anxiety, suicidality, self-injurious behavior, and more; and

WHEREAS, sexual violence has a significant financial expense to our community in police and court costs, shelters and homeless services, relocation expenses, medical expenses, sick leave, absenteeism, and child care support and services; and


WHEREAS, sexual violence inhibits individuals within our community from reaching their fullest potential and all people have the right to be safe and free from sexual violence in their communities, workplaces, homes, social and personal lives; and

WHEREAS, we must all continue to support survivors, educate ourselves and others, work towards prevention of sexual violence at its root causes, engage in meaningful dialogue, continue our coordinated community efforts, and hold offenders of sexual violence accountable; and

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month provides an opportunity to show support for the numerous sexual violence advocates, victim service organizations, crisis hotline staff, law enforcement officers, and prosecutors that work every day to offer safety, advocacy, resources, hope and the opportunity for healing to victims in our community;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lacey Beaty, Mayor of the City of Beaverton, Oregon, do hereby proclaim
April 2021 as:

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH



Lacey Beaty
Mayor