## **Proclamation**

## APRIL 2024 SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

- WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) calls attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread leaving millions of our neighbors, friends, colleagues, and loved ones scarred; and
- WHEREAS, the goal of Sexual Assault Awareness Month is to raise public awareness and bring advocates, survivors, their loved ones, and the community to increase knowledge and identify prevention strategies; and
- WHEREAS, rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment harm our community, and statistics show that nationwide 81 percent of women and 43 percent of men reported experiencing some form of harassment and/or assault in their lifetime; and
- WHEREAS, child sexual abuse prevention must be a priority to confront the reality that what is reported is that one in three girls and one in four boys between the ages of 11 and 17 experience sexual abuse or assault; and
- WHEREAS, sexual assault affects individuals across all ages, abilities, sexual orientations, gender identities, and of all racial, social, religious, ethnic, and economic backgrounds; and
- WHEREAS, the National Sexual Violence Resource Center is promoting thirty days of SAAM with this year's theme "Building Connected Communities"; and
- WHEREAS, together we can make a difference and promote the safety of others, and to show survivors they are believed and supported.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, by the City of Garden Grove City Council that April 2024 is Sexual Assault Awareness Month and that each day of the month and year is an opportunity to work towards building connected communities for a better future free of sexual violence.