



# ***CITY OF SEBASTOPOL***

## ***Proclamation***

### PROCLAIMING APRIL 2024 AS SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) calls attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and impacts every person in every community. SAAM aims to raise public awareness about sexual abuse, harassment, and assault and educate communities about how to be involved in prevention; and

WHEREAS, This year's SAAM campaign theme, Building Connected Communities, calls on each of us to work together to prevent sexual abuse, harassment, and assault. We believe when anyone experiences sexual violence, every community member is affected; and

WHEREAS, We must strive to build more connected, respectful, and inclusive communities to promote our collective well-being and protect against the risk of sexual violence. We believe all of our communities will be safer and stronger by making them more equitable for people of all gender identities and sexual orientations, races and ethnic backgrounds, ages, faiths, and abilities; and

WHEREAS, statistics show over 53% of women and over 29% of men reported experiencing contact sexual violence in their lifetime and most women and men across all sexual identities who experienced contact sexual violence reported that the person who harmed them was someone they knew.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that I, Mayor Diana Gardner Rich, on behalf of the entire City Council proclaim the month of April 2024 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month and as such we must strive to create strong, connected communities that take care of one another and make decisions to ensure the safety and well-being of others to end sexual violence

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the Great Seal of the City of Sebastopol this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April 2024.

Diana Gardner Rich  
Mayor, City of Sebastopol