

Office of the Mayor City of Tukwila, Washington **PROCLAMATION** 

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month calls attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and impacts every community; and

WHEREAS, In Washington State, 45% of women and 22% of men report having experienced sexual violence in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, In King County, more than 7,400 adults and children received specialized assistance from organizations with programming for sexual assault victims in 2019; and

WHEREAS, Demand for services to help survivors heal has increased significantly since 2016, reflecting the cultural shift that is taking place that has prompted many survivors who have remained silent to now speak up and seek the help they need to heal; and

WHEREAS, Individual and community impacts of sexual violence are rooted in and compounded by racial, gender, sexual orientation, and other forms of oppression; and

WHEREAS, King County is home to many organizations that provide culturally and linguistically specific services for survivors from various racial/ethnic, faith, and cultural communities, survivors who are immigrants and refugees, survivors who are LGBTQ, and survivors with disabilities, and these culturally specific services are critical to effectively respond to the specific needs and barriers many survivors face; and

WHEREAS, prevention of sexual assault is possible when we increase awareness and community involvement;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Allan Ekberg, Mayor of the City of Tukwila, do hereby proclaim April 2020:

## Sexual Assault Awareness Month

in the City of Tukwila and encourage residents to join advocates and communities across the country in taking action to prevent sexual violence.

Signed this eighth day of April, 2020.

Allan Ekberg, Mayor