

PROCLAMATION
Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) in Ann Arbor, Michigan
April 2026

WHEREAS, sexual assault, abuse, and harassment are widespread problems and affect adults and children across all socioeconomic backgrounds; and we must recognize the added barriers faced by survivors from historically marginalized communities — particularly survivors who are Black, Indigenous, Latino, Asian American, Pacific Islander, and other people of color and those in the LGBTQ+ community; and

WHEREAS, we must recognize that survivors must be top priority in this space. Their stories are theirs to share, and all survivors – those who come forward and those who choose to keep what happened private – deserve to be believed, supported, uplifted, and protected. They have the right to choose what healing and justice mean to them; and

WHEREAS, we must recognize that there is a strong link between sexual violence and chronic disease, as well as greater long-term economic burdens on survivors of sexual assault. The trauma of assault is further compounded by the high costs of medical and mental health care, navigating the criminal justice system, and lost productivity; and

WHEREAS, sexual violence happens in all communities, including online spaces, in families, and in workspaces. It happens at all socio-economic levels, and usually it is by someone the survivor knows. Consent and boundaries can be violated in many ways, and the trauma of abuse is all too real for many survivors; and

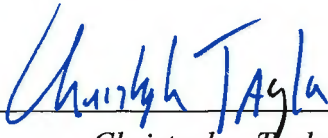
WHEREAS, each of us has the power to change all of this. We can all make a difference to ensure our communities are safer and that survivors feel supported and heard; and

WHEREAS, awareness and prevention and, most importantly, support for survivors are the heart of the Sexual Assault Awareness Month. It is a time to draw attention to the prevalence of sexual violence, educate individuals and communities about how to prevent it, and help those in need.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Christopher Taylor, Mayor of the City of Ann Arbor, Michigan, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2026 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Ann Arbor, and I join advocates and communities across the country in preventing sexual violence and uplifting survivors of this crime. Together we can build safer and more supportive spaces now and into the future.



*I hereby set my hand and seal
this 1st day of April 2026*


Christopher Taylor
Mayor of the City of Ann Arbor