



Denis Law Mayor

# Proclamation

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

*Whereas*, the risk is even higher for people of color, refugees, immigrants, LGBTQ, and other marginalized community members; one recent study shows 94% of Native American women in Seattle report they have been sexually assaulted; and

*Whereas*, in King County, more than 7,300 adults and children received specialized assistance from organizations with programming for sexual assault victims in 2018; and

*Whereas*, demand for services at the King County Sexual Assault Resource Center jumped 19% last year, 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*, of the 4,888 individuals served by the King County Sexual Assault Resource Center in 2018, half were children; nationally, 1 in 5 children under 18 are sexually abused; and

*Whereas*, in 2016, 18% of 10th graders in Washington reported that they had been made to engage in unwanted kissing or sexual contact; and

*Whereas*, negative impacts of sexual violence trauma on women, men, children, and youth include fear, concern for safety, symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder, injury, and missed work or school; and

*Whereas*, working together to educate our community about sexual violence, supporting survivors when they come forward, speaking out against harmful attitudes and actions, and engaging in best-practice sexual violence prevention work helps end sexual violence;

*Now, therefore*, I, Denis Law, Mayor of the City of Renton, do hereby proclaim April 2019 to be

## *Sexual Assault Awareness Month*

in the City of Renton, and I encourage all citizens to join me in this special observance, and join advocates and communities across the country in taking action to prevent sexual violence.

*In witness whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Renton to be affixed this 25th day of March, 2019.

Denis Law, Mayor  
City of Renton, Washington

