



## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, in Washington State, 45% of women and 22% of men report having experienced sexual violence in their lifetime, and 29% of the survivors who were supported by community sexual assault organizations statewide identified as Black, Indigenous and people of color in 1029. Of those identifying ethnicity, 21% identified as Latinx/Hispanic; and

**WHEREAS**, rape is amount the most underreported crimes for many reasons, including victim's fear of being disbelieved or further traumatized within the legal system. Additional barriers, such as language, immigration status, gender bias, and systemic racism further oppress and silence victims, and

**WHEREAS**, individual and community impacts of sexual violence are rooted in and compounded by racism, sexism, heterosexism, and other forms of oppression. Black, Indigenous and other people of color, people living in poverty, LGBTQ+ people, elders, people with disabilities, and other people targeted by oppression are disproportionately affected by sexual violence in significant and complete ways; and

**WHEREAS**, Negative impacts of sexual violence trauma on adults, youth, and children include fear, concern for safety, physical and mental health conditions, including symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder, injury, and missed work or school; and

**WHEREAS**, working together as a community, we can alleviate the trauma of sexual violence by ensuring supportive resources are available to all survivors, while standing up to and actively disruption harmful attitudes and behaviors that contribute to sexual violence;

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Keith Scully, Mayor of the City of Shoreline, on behalf of the Shoreline City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of April as

## SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

in the City of Shoreline and join advocates and communities throughout King County in taking action to prevent sexual violence by standing with survivors. Together, we commit to a safer future for all children, young people, adults, and families in our community.



Keith Scully, Mayor