



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, sexual harassment, abuse, and assault are widespread problems. In the United States alone, nearly one in five women and one in 33 men have been raped at some time in their lives, and one in four girls and one in 6 boys is sexually abused by their 18th birthday.

WHEREAS, sexual assault affects every adult, teen, and child in Denton and Dallas County either as a victim/survivor of sexual assault or as a family member, significant other, friend, neighbor, or co-worker; and,

WHEREAS, few survivors of sexual violence seek help immediately after victimization due to shame or fear of not being believed. To end sexual assault, we must alleviate these fears. We must begin by believing; and,

WHEREAS, Denton County Friends of the Family staff and volunteers provide comprehensive and compassionate services to those impacted by sexual assault, including a Survivor Advocate Team responding 24/7 to local hospitals and law enforcement agencies to support victims of sexual assault; and,

WHEREAS, April 2023 marks the 21st anniversary of Sexual Assault Awareness Month during which Denton County Friends of the Family will be intensifying efforts to promote public understanding of sexual assault, publicizing their services, emphasizing the need for increased community support for their agency, and to increase awareness of needs of survivors;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Wes Mays, Mayor of the City of Coppell, do hereby declare the month of April 2023, as:

“SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH”

in the City of Coppell and encourage all citizens to learn more about the effects of sexual assault and how to support survivors.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I have set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Coppell to be affixed this 11th day of April 2023.

ATTEST:

Ashley Owens, City Secretary

Wes Mays, Mayor