

Office of the Mayor
City of Fayetteville
Proclamation



WHEREAS: we citizens of Fayetteville, Arkansas and of Northwest Arkansas renew our commitment to take back the night by focusing awareness on sexual violence, the culture that perpetuates this violence, and its prevention – with a goal of changing institutional policies and practices that support the behaviors and changing our cultural norms so that this type of behavior is not expected, accepted, or tolerated, and

WHEREAS: one out of every five women and one out of every seventy-one men in the United States report experiencing rape at some point in their lives, and we must make a loud and unified statement that this current status of abuse against women, men, and children in our society is no longer acceptable, nor will it ever be acceptable, and

WHEREAS: physical assault, domestic violence, and sexual assault affect every person in Fayetteville, Arkansas and the communities of Northwest Arkansas in some way, either as a victim and survivor, or as a family member, significant other, neighbor or co-worker of a victim and survivor, and

WHEREAS: the continued educational efforts to provide information about prevention and services for victims of violence is vital, and it is important to increase public awareness of violence and sexual abuse against women, men, and children, to educate people about the need for citizen involvement in efforts to reduce violence and sexual abuse, to increase support for agencies providing victim services and educational outreach initiatives, and to increase awareness of the healing power of creative expression, and

WHEREAS: many citizens of Fayetteville and within Northwest Arkansas are working to provide quality services and assistance through outreach programming, educational events, dedicated volunteers and staff of 24-hour hotlines, response to emergency calls and offering of support, comfort and advocacy during medical exams, criminal proceedings and throughout the healing process, and

WHEREAS: the University of Arkansas Health Center's STAR Central Office and its Peer Education Group, *RESPECT-Rape Education Services by Peers Encouraging Conscious Thought*, requests community support and assistance as it continues to work toward a society where all women, children, and men can live in peace, free from violence, exploitation and sexual abuse.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Lioneld Jordan, Mayor of the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas do hereby recognize the 16th annual Northwest Arkansas

“TAKE BACK THE NIGHT MARCH”

in Fayetteville, Arkansas and commend this observance to all our citizens.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Fayetteville, Arkansas to be affixed on the 19th day of April, 2018.

Attest:

Sondra E. Smith
City Clerk

Lioneld Jordan
Mayor

