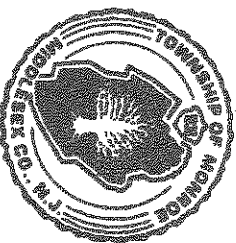


Office of the Mayor



Proclamation

April - Sexual Assault Awareness Month

April 25, 2018 Wear Denim Day

Whereas, Sexual Assault Awareness Month and the observance of "Denim Day" are intended to draw attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and has public health implications for every community member of Middlesex County including lifelong mental health impact; and

Whereas, sexual assault, sexual abuse, and sexual harassment impact our community as seen by statistics indicating 1 in 4 girls and 1 in 6 boys are sexually assaulted before age 18; and

Whereas, prevention is possible so we must work together to educate our community about what can be done to prevent sexual violence while supporting survivors; and

Whereas, staff and volunteers of anti-violence and prevention programs in Middlesex County including the Middlesex County Center for Empowerment and Sexual Violence encourage every person to speak out when witnessing acts of violence, however small, and to challenge the social norms that continue to perpetuate a culture of violence; and

Whereas, the New Jersey Sex Crimes Association and the Middlesex County Sex Crimes Liaison Officers in connection with the Middlesex County Prosecutors Office are dedicated to ensuring the effective investigation and prosecution of sex crimes in our community through interagency collaboration and training; and

Whereas, with leadership, dedication, and encouragement, there is compelling evidence that we can be successful in reducing sexual violence in Middlesex County through increased awareness, prevention and education focused on increasing gender equity, healthy relationships, and bystander intervention, and holding perpetrators who commit acts of violence responsible for their actions; and

Whereas, throughout the month of April, Middlesex County strongly supports the efforts of national, state, and local partners, and of every citizen to actively engage in public and private efforts, including conversations about what sexual violence is, how to prevent it, how to help survivors connect with services, and how every segment of our society can work together to better address sexual violence;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved, that I, **GERALD W. TAMBURRO**, Mayor of the Township of Monroe, do hereby proclaim **April 2018** as **SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH** and urge all citizens to "wear denim" on **Wednesday, April 25, 2018** in the Township of Monroe.

Dated: March 20, 2018.


GERALD W. TAMBURRO, MAYOR