



Office of the Mayor

Proclamation

Whereas:

Sexual Assault Awareness Month calls attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and impacts every member of the Lima community; and

WHEREAS: Rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment impact our community, and statistics show one in five women and one in 71 men will be raped at some point in their lives; and

WHEREAS: Child sexual abuse prevention must be a priority to confront the reality that one in six boys and one in four girls will experience a sexual assault before the age 18; and

WHEREAS: Young people experience heightened rates of sexual violence, and youth ages 12-17 were 2.5 times as likely to be victims of rape or sexual assault; and

WHEREAS: We must work together to educate our community about sexual violence prevention, supporting survivors, and speaking out against harmful attitudes and actions; and

WHEREAS: With leadership and dedication, we can be successful in preventing sexual violence in the City of Lima by increasing education, awareness, and community involvement; and

WHEREAS: Crime Victims Services is actively involved throughout the year in raising awareness of sexual violence and prevention. In 2013 Crime Victims Services served a total of 311 survivors of sexual assault, 108 victims of stalking, and 20 survivors of human trafficking. Additionally, 2,673 high school students received primary prevention messages of sexual/intimate partner violence; and

WHEREAS: The City of Lima strongly supports the efforts of national, state, and local partners, and of every citizen, to actively engage in public and private efforts to prevent sexual violence. It is time for all of us to take appropriate action and support one another to create a safer environment for all.

NOW THEREFORE:

I, David J. Berger, Mayor of the City of Lima, Ohio do hereby proclaim the month of April as

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

in the City of Lima, Ohio, and ask all citizens to join advocates and communities across the country in playing an active role to prevent sexual violence.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Seal of the City of Lima, Ohio, this 26th day of March 2014.



Signature of David J. Berger, Mayor of the City of Lima, Ohio.