

[Name of Tribe/Tribal Government]

PROCLAMATION: SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

April 2026

WHEREAS, sexual violence—including but not limited to rape, incest, child sexual abuse, intimate partner violence, human trafficking, unwanted sexual contact, sexual harassment, exposure, and voyeurism—is a widespread and serious crime in the United States, with nearly 1 in 5 women in the United States having experienced rape or attempted rape at some time in their lives, and 1 in approximately 31 American men having experienced rape or attempted rape;

WHEREAS, 4 in 5 American Indian and Alaska Native (AI/AN) women have experienced violence in their lifetime and 1 in 2 have experienced sexual violence;

WHEREAS, in the state of Minnesota, Indigenous women, girls, and Two-Spirit people are disproportionately likely to experience violence, be murdered, or go missing compared with other demographic groups;

WHEREAS, sexual violence against Native people coincides and intersects with other forms of violence and oppression that our people have faced in the past and contemporarily;

WHEREAS, there are limited resources, direct service providers, and organizations that serve victims of sexual violence in Indian Country and provide culturally-informed and culturally-appropriate care;

WHEREAS, sexual violence remains one of the most prevalent yet underrepresented crimes in both the United States and Indian Country;

WHEREAS, everyone deserves to be safe and the prevalence of sexual violence against our people jeopardizes both the safety of our people and the wellbeing of our Tribe; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the [insert Tribe] do hereby proclaim April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM). We call upon [insert Tribe] members/citizens, law enforcement, Tribal organizations, health officials, and all community members to speak out against sexual violence and support survivors, victims, and families in their healing.

[name of Tribal Nation] President/Tribal Chairperson

This proclamation is intended to be a template, and should be adapted as best fits your Tribe or community's needs. Reach out to MIWSAC by filling out our [Training & Technical Assistance form](#) if you need assistance with your proclamation.

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Sources:

- <https://www.niwrc.org/resources/template/sample-proclamation-sexual-assault-awareness-month>
- <https://s3.us-east-2.amazonaws.com/assets.dps.mn.gov/s3fs-public/migrated-files/divisions/ojp/mmir/Documents/mmir-office-wilder-report-2023.pdf>
- <https://miwsacstg-media.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/01101738/Garden-of-Truth-Report.pdf>
- <https://mn.gov/governor/newsroom/proclamations/>
- <https://www.nsvrc.org/saam>
- <https://www.cdc.gov/sexual-violence/about/index.html>

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