The City of Savannah
Georgia

Proclamation

WHEREAS: Mary's Place Sexual Assault Center of the Coastal Empire was founded fifty years ago in response to a critical need, after a survivor of sexual assault had nowhere to turn for care, support, or advocacy; and

WHEREAS: Since its founding, Mary's Place has grown into a vital resource serving seven counties across Southeast Georgia, providing compassionate, comprehensive services to survivors of sexual violence; and

WHEREAS: The Center responds to more than 600 crisis calls annually and reaches over 20,000 young people in K-12 schools, and colleges to provide prevention education; and

WHEREAS: Mary's Place offers a wide range of essential services, including a 24-hour crisis hotline, crisis response advocacy, sexual assault forensic evidence collection, court accompaniment, individual pro-bono counseling, assistance with temporary protective orders, and other critical survivor-centered support service; and.

WHEREAS: During Sexual Assault Awareness Month, observed each April, we recognize the importance of raising public awareness about sexual violence, supporting survivors, and strengthening prevention efforts; and

WHEREAS: The City of Saannah acknowledges the immeasurable impact of Mary's Place and honors its fifty years of unwavering commitment to dignity, healing, and justice for survivors in our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Van R. Johnson, II, Mayor of the City of Savannah, Georgia, do hereby proclaim the month of April, 2026 in honor of

MARY'S PLACE SEXUAL ASSAULT CENTER OF THE COASTAL EMPIRE

On their 50th Anniversary and encourage all citizens to recognize the vital work of Mary's Place, support survivors, and join in efforts to end sexual violence in our community.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Savannah, Georgia to be affixed.
This 1st day of, APRIL 2026

ATTEST

Clerk of Council

MAYOR