

CITY OF BRIGHTON SAAM STATEMENT APRIL 1ST-30TH, 2024

This year our nation will be recognizing Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) APRIL 1st-30th, 2024.

Since 2001, Sexual Assault Awareness Month has raised awareness about sexual violence and how to prevent it. The movement began back in the 1970's. On April 1, 2001 the U.S. first observed Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Each year, communities across the country engage with this issue more directly by learning more about sexual violence, sharing important statistics, and stepping up to stop sexual assault.

This year SAAM is commemorated through *Building Connected Communities*. The theme of Sexual Assault Awareness Month 2024 is Building Connected Communities, a campaign that helps us reduce the likelihood of sexual abuse, assault, and harassment in our communities. We must strive to create strong, connected communities that take care of one another. Communities that make decisions to ensure the safety and well-being of all members are critical to ending sexual violence worldwide. *(National Sexual Violence Resource Center, 2023)

Teal is the official color of SAAM. The teal ribbon is the symbol of sexual violence prevention.

The Brighton Police Department, remains committed to offering reporting options to victims of sexual assault while responding to sexual violence with a victim-centered, offender-focused approach. Our city demonstrates this year's SAAM theme and our continued recommitment to ending sexual violence in our community.

