

RESOLUTION TO APPROVE

RECOGNIZING APRIL 2021 AS SEXUAL
ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH IN MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP

RESOLUTION

At a regular meeting of the Township Board of the Charter Township of Meridian, Ingham County, Michigan, held virtually during the COVID-19 global pandemic, 517.853.4000, on Tuesday, April 13, 2021 at 6:00 pm.

PRESENT: Supervisor Styka, Clerk Guthrie, Treasurer Deschaine, Trustees Jackson, Opsommer, Wisinski

ABSENT: Trustee Sundland

The following resolution was offered by Clerk Guthrie and supported by Trustee Jackson

WHEREAS, nationally one in three women and one in four men will experience some form of sexual assault in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, due to the unprecedented challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, including mandatory stay-at-home orders, the needs of sexual assault victims have become even more complex and challenging;

WHEREAS, according to a March 2020 survey by the National Alliance to End Sexual Violence of more than 600 rape crisis programs, 89 percent of those programs need emergency stimulus funding to respond to requests from survivors for support and emergency assistance;

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month draws attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and has implications for every community member; and

WHEREAS, there is compelling evidence that we can be successful in reducing sexual violence through prevention education, increased awareness, and holding perpetrators who commit acts of violence responsible for their actions; and

WHEREAS, We must work together to educate our community about what can be done to prevent sexual assault and how to support survivors; and

WHEREAS, Anyone can be a leader in preventing and ending sexual violence. As employers, educators, parents, and friends, we all have an obligation to uphold the basic principle that every individual should be free from violence and fear; and

WHEREAS, the Meridian Township Police Department has a specially trained investigator that conducts and coordinates all of our sexual assault reports. The department also conduct annual training for the public on the recognition of behaviors in children that are victims of abuse and sexual assault; and

