Proclamation

City of Oneida - Office of the Mayor

WHEREAS, Zonta International is a leading global organization of professionals with more than 28,000 members in 62 countries working together to make gender equality a worldwide reality for women and girls, **and**

WHEREAS, Zonta International has contributed to help achieve a world free of violence against women and girls for more than 100 years, and, since 2012, continues to raise awareness of crimes of violence against women and girls through their yearly "Zonta Says No To Violence" Campaign for 16 consecutive days from November 25th through December 10th, **and**

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization estimates that one in three women worldwide have experienced physical and/or sexual violence, **and**

WHEREAS, more than 650 million women alive today were married as children and 12 million girls are married before the age of 18 each year, **and**

WHEREAS, the crime of violence against women and girls continues to be the most pervasive human rights violation, and a global epidemic, due to systemic use of physical, emotional, verbal, sexual, psychological, and economic control and/or abuse; such crimes do not know any national or cultural barriers and affect millions of women and girls of all races and socioeconomic backgrounds, in peacetime and conflict, **and**

WHEREAS, Zonta International envisions and continues to strive for a world where every woman is able to achieve her full potential, have access to all resources, is treated with dignity and respect, and is represented on an equal basis with men; **and now therefore,**

I, **Helen B. Acker, Mayor** do hereby proclaim November 21, 2023 as:

"Zonta Says No to Violence Against Women Day"

in the City of Oneida and encourage all residents to practice and promote gender equality, to advocate for survivors of gender-based violence, and to act in service on their behalf.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affix the official seal of the City of Oneida on this 21st day of November 2023.

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Mayor Helen B. Acker