TOWNSHIP OF HOPEWELL
MERCER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Proclamation

WHEREAS, it is the policy of Hopewell Township to recognize organizations that have contributed to the overall benefit of the community; and

WHEREAS, Womanspace, founded in 1977, has demonstrated a unique ability to provide comfort, support services, crisis intervention and safety to women who are victims of sexual assault and domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, Womanspace, in the belief that "peace begins at home", has asked the Mercer County Community to join them in their struggle against violence toward women by participating in their annual Communities of Light project; and

WHEREAS, Womanspace has provided emergency shelter in secure locations and comprehensive services for victims of domestic violence since 1977 and sexual assault since 2002, for more than 120,404 women, 17,024 children and 8,072 men. Additionally, Womanspace has assisted more than 317,089 hotline callers over the last 46 years; and

WHEREAS, Hopewell Township commends Womanspace for their efforts to bring an end to the cycle of interpersonal violence imposed on women, children and men; and

WHEREAS, as Mayor of Hopewell Township I urge that each and every household demonstrate their support of the concept that "peace begins at home" by placing luminaries along their driveways and sidewalks on Monday, December 4, 2023, as a visible symbol of that support; and

WHEREAS, the proceeds from Communities of Light 2023 will be used to fund vital services for victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking.

NOW, THEREFORE, **I**, Michael Ruger, Mayor of the Township of Hopewell, County of Mercer, State of New Jersey, do hereby proclaim December 4, 2023, as

COMMUNITIES OF LIGHT DAY

and hereby honor Womanspace on its many accomplishments and wish them continued success with Communities of Light in the years to come.

In Witness Whereof, I Hereunto Set My
Hand and Cause to be Affixed the
Seal of the Township of Hopewell
This 4th Day of December 2023

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Michael Ruger
Mayor