



PROCLAMATION

OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF EL DORADO Proclaiming April 2018 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month calls attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and has public health and safety implications for El Dorado County and beyond; and,

WHEREAS, the goal of Sexual Assault Awareness Month is to increase visibility, create public awareness, encourage conversation, and educate communities on how to prevent it and to expand national efforts at the local level that include recognition of the alarming statistics:

- Rape, sexual assault and sexual harassment harm our community, and statistics show one in five women and one in sixty-seven men will be raped at some point in their lives (Smith et al., 2017),
- Child sexual abuse prevention must be a priority to confront the reality that one in six boys and one in four girls will experience sexual assault before age eighteen (Dube et al., 2005),
- On campus, one in five women and one in sixteen men are sexually assaulted during their time in college (Krebs, Lindquist, Warner, Fisher & Martin, 2007); and,

WHEREAS, we call on our community to come together to “Embrace Your Voice” and assist in informing ourselves and our community on how to use our words to stop sexual violence before it happens by promoting safety, respect and equality; and,

WHEREAS, our words shape the world around us, whether we speak out against locker room talk or help someone better understand these issues, our voices are powerful and necessary in this conversation, especially when we can embrace our voices to show support for survivors, stand up to victim blaming, shut down rape jokes, correct harmful misconceptions, promote everyday consent, and practice healthy communication with kids; and,

WHEREAS, with passion and dedication, residents from throughout the County of El Dorado support and join with hundreds of sexual assault service agencies and organizations nationwide taking action to prevent sexual violence and to recognize April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month and that each day of the year is an opportunity to create change for the future; and,

WHEREAS, the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors strongly supports the efforts of national, state and local partners and of every citizen to actively engage in efforts to continue to support sexual assault prevention programs on school campuses, sexual assault prevention programs in the community and rape crisis centers.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado does hereby proclaim April 2018 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in the County of El Dorado and joins advocates at the Center for Violence-Free Relationships and communities and all levels of government across the country in playing an active role to prevent sexual violence.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado at a regular meeting of said Board, held this 3rd day of April, 2018.

Attest:

James S. Mitrisin

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

by:

Deputy Clerk

Supervisor Michael Ranalli, Chair, Board of Supervisors