



## ***PROCLAMATION***

### **OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF EL DORADO Proclaiming April 2019 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month**

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

- 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**, the goal of Sexual Assault Awareness Month is more than awareness – the ultimate goal is prevention of sexual harassment, abuse and assault; and,

**WHEREAS**, when we talk about prevention, we mean stopping sexual violence before it happens by changing norms that allow it to exist in the first place from attitudes, values and behaviors to laws, institutions, and widespread social norms; and,

**WHEREAS**, we call on our community to join us in the “I ASK” campaign and champion the power of asking and receiving consent. “I ASK” is the statement by which individuals will demonstrate that asking for consent is a healthy, normal, and necessary part of everyday interactions, will uplift the importance of consent and transform it from being prescriptive to empowering; and,

**WHEREAS**, prevention is everyone’s responsibility: All of us can create and promote safe environments. We can intervene to stop behavior, promote healthy attitudes and relationships, believe survivors, and assist them in finding resources; and,

**WHEREAS**, the El Dorado County Board of Supervisors strongly supports the efforts of national, state and local sexual assault prevention programs, and rape crisis centers in their efforts to create safe and healthy communities,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED**, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado joins The Center for Violence-Free Relationships and communities across the country in playing an active role to prevent sexual violence. Along with the United States Government, the State of California, and El Dorado County, the Board of Supervisors proclaim April 2019 as “Sexual Assault Awareness Month” in the County of El Dorado.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** by the Board of Supervisors of the County of El Dorado at a regular meeting of said Board, held this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of April, 2019.

**Attest:**

James S. Mitrison

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

by:

Deputy Clerk

Supervisor Sue Novasel, Chair, Board of Supervisors