

Proclamation

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS | NAPA COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

Sexual Assault Awareness Month – April 2025

WHEREAS, in 2025 NEWS Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse Services is commemorating 43 years of service to survivors of domestic violence and sexual abuse in Napa County, having opened as the County’s Rape Crisis Center in 2010 to provide safety to those experiencing sexual abuse; and

WHEREAS, in 2001 the National Sexual Violence Resource Center launched the first **Sexual Assault Awareness Month** campaign, and in 2009 the Obama Administration officially recognized April as **National Sexual Assault Awareness Month**, enshrining our Country’s commitment to broadening education of sexual violence, promoting consent, ending victim-blaming, and showing support for victims and survivors; and

WHEREAS, **Sexual Assault Awareness Month** is an observance dedicated to highlighting the importance of safety, respect and equality, and standing up and speaking out against harmful cultural norms and attitudes that allow sexual violence to persist. This year’s national campaign of “**Together We Act, United We Change**” emphasizes the importance of communities working together to prevent sexual abuse, assault, and harassment; and

WHEREAS, rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment harm all corners of a community, however, sexual violence disproportionately affects women, minors, and racial and ethnic minority groups. Statistics from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control show that over half of women and almost 1 in 3 men have experienced sexual violence involving physical contact during their lifetimes; and, that 1 in 4 women and about 1 in 26 men have experienced completed or attempted rape; and

WHEREAS, by observing April as **Sexual Assault Awareness Month** we show that our community is committed to supporting survivors and working toward the prevention of sexual violence across generations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED, that this Board of Supervisors, County of Napa, State of California, on this 22nd day of April 2025, does hereby join **NEWS**, advocates, and communities across the country in taking action to prevent sexual violence. We recognize **April 2025** as **Sexual Assault Awareness Month** in Napa County, and we urge the community to join in the effort not only in April, but all year long, to be part of the effort to end sexual violence.

Anne Cottrell, Chair

Amber Manfree, Vice Chair

Joelle Gallagher, District 1

Liz Alessio, District 2

Belia Ramos, District 5

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

