



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: January 10, 2024

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____

☐ 4/5 Vote Required

**Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California,
Recognizing April 2025 As Sexual Assault Awareness Month**

Whereas, Sexual Assault Awareness Month is intended to draw attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and has a profound and lasting impact on every community member of Sonoma County; and

Whereas, Verity, Sexual Assault Prevention, Intervention & Healing Center, worked with over 1,300 survivors in Sonoma County in 2024; and

Whereas, Verity has further contributed to community education and outreach in 2024 by hosting 247 presentations and events, reaching a total of 10,149 community members with valuable information and resources; and

Whereas, national research indicates that one in five women will be raped at some point in their lifetime, and nearly half of all women will experience some form of sexual violence; and

Whereas, researchers have found that at least 1 in 6 men have experienced sexual abuse or assault, whether in childhood or as an adult; and

Whereas, young people are at greatest risk of sexual violence, and youth aged 12 to 17 are two and a half times more likely to be raped or sexually assaulted than their adult counterparts; and

Whereas, disabled people, people of color, queer people, homeless people, transgender people, undocumented people, youth in foster care, and people of other marginalized identities are even more likely to be victimized by sexual violence; and

Whereas, over 18,000 members of the military and over 80,000 people who are incarcerated experience sexual violence every year; and

Whereas, with leadership, dedication, and encouragement, there is evidence that we can be successful in preventing sexual violence in Sonoma County through increased education, awareness, and community involvement; and

Whereas, the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors strongly supports the efforts of Verity, and encourages every resident to actively engage in public and private efforts to end sexual violence, including conversations about what sexual violence is, how to prevent it, how to help survivors of all backgrounds connect with crucial counseling and other support services, and how every segment of our society can work together to better address sexual violence.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors, formally designate the month of April 2025 to be SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

Resolution #24-

Date:

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Supervisors:

Gorin:

Coursey:

Gore:

Hopkins:

Rabbitt:

Ayes:

Noes:

Absent:

Abstain:

So Ordered.