



County of Sonoma

State of California

Date: March 18, 2025

Item Number: _____

Resolution Number: _____

4/5 Vote Required

**Resolution Of The Board Of Supervisors Of The County Of Sonoma, State Of California,
Proclaiming the Month of March 2025 to be Family Justice Center Month in Sonoma County**

Whereas, One in ten domestic violence related calls to first responders in Sonoma County involve a victim being strangled by their abusive intimate partner; and

Whereas, California has the highest rates of both labor and sex trafficking in the US; and

Whereas, Sonoma County Adult Protective Services received over 7,800 allegations of suspected elder abuse in 2023 which was a nearly nine percent increase from the prior year.

Whereas, The annual cost of intimate partner violence in Sonoma County is estimated to be up to \$240 million including emergency response, court and probation, medical expenses, property damage or loss, and costs incurred from lost work productivity; and

Whereas, Domestic Violence incidents involving a weapon increased by more than 340% since 2021; with firearm involved DV incidents doubling in the same timeframe; and

Whereas, The purpose of the Family Justice Center Sonoma County is to advocate for the victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, elder abuse, and child abuse in the County of Sonoma, and to actively work toward the prevention of those crimes, while supporting survivors with essential intervention services all in one place; and

Whereas, The Family Justice Center Sonoma County provides a network of collaborative, co-located partners, including advocates, mental health specialists, law

enforcement, prosecutors, and other professionals to provide trauma-informed, coordinated, wraparound services for more than 1,800 adult and child family violence survivors each year; and

Whereas, The Family Justice Center Sonoma County seeks to ensure that victims of abuse are able to access all needed services in one location in order to enhance safety and increase offender accountability; and

Whereas, The Board of Supervisors recognizes the ongoing efforts of the District Attorney's Office, Sonoma County Sheriff's Office, Department of Health Services, Human Services Department, Sonoma County Courts, Santa Rosa Police Department, YWCA Sonoma County, Verity, Council on Aging, Legal Aid, Ruthless Kindness, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner - Sexual Assault Response Team (SANE-SART), Victims Empowerment Support Team (VEST), Catholic Charities, Family Law Facilitator, Probation Department, and other law enforcement agencies, County departments, and community groups for working together to end the cycle of domestic violence, sexual assault, and elder abuse and improve services for victims.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Board of Supervisors, in recognition of Family Justice Center Sonoma County's effort to address interpersonal and family violence within the community, hereby proclaims March 2025 to be Family Justice Center Month in Sonoma County.

Supervisors:

Hermosillo: Rabbitt: Coursey: Gore: Hopkins:

Ayes: Noes: Absent: Abstain:

So Ordered.