

# City of El Paso de Robles

## PROCLAMATION

### “Start By Believing Day”

February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013

**WHEREAS**, *the City of Paso Robles shares a critical concern for victims of sexual violence and a desire to support their needs for justice and healing; and*

**WHEREAS**, *in 2011 the Paso Robles Police Department received a total of 12 reports of rape or attempted rape, and the Sexual Assault Recovery and Prevention (SARP) Center served the needs of county victims during 422 crisis interventions, 219 peer counseling sessions, and 107 forensic exams, law enforcement interviews, or other proceedings; and*

**WHEREAS**, *research estimates that as many as 1 in 6 women and 1 in 33 men will become the victims of rape or attempted rape, yet most will not report the crime to law enforcement, and rapists who are not detected by authorities will perpetrate an average of 6 crimes; and*

**WHEREAS**, *research documents that victims are far more likely to disclose their sexual assault to a friend or family member, and when these loved ones respond with doubt, shame, or blame, victims suffer additional negative effects on their physical and psychological well-being; and*

**WHEREAS**, *the Start by Believing public awareness campaign is designed to improve the responses of friends, family members, and community professionals, so they can help victims to access supportive resources and engage the criminal justice system;*

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** *that I, Duane Picanco, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor, and speaking on behalf of the entire City Council, do hereby proclaim support for the Start by Believing public awareness campaign being launched in the county on February 1st, 2013 and do hereby declare this day to be “START BY BELIEVING DAY” throughout the city of Paso Robles, California.*



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, on this 15<sup>th</sup> day of January 2013,  
I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the  
City of Paso Robles to be affixed.

Duane Picanco, Mayor  
City of El Paso de Robles