City of El Paso de Robles PROCLAMATION

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH April 2013

- WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month is intended to draw attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and has public health implications for every community member of San Luis Obispo County; and
- WHEREAS, rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment impact our community as seen by statistics indicating that one in four women and one in six men will be sexually assaulted in their lifetime; and
- WHEREAS, Child sexual abuse prevention must be a priority to confront the reality that one in six boys and one in four girls will experience a sexual assault before the age of 18; and
- WHEREAS, we must work together to educate our community about sexual violence prevention, supporting survivors, and speaking out against harmful attitudes and actions; and
- WHEREAS, staff and volunteers of the newly merged Sexual Assault Recovery & Prevention Center and North County Women's Shelter & Resource Center of San Luis Obispo County encourage every person to speak out when witnessing acts of violence however small; and
- WHEREAS, with leadership, dedication, and encouragement, there is compelling evidence that we can be successful in reducing sexual violence in San Luis Obispo County through prevention education, increased awareness, and holding perpetrators who commit acts of violence responsible for their actions; and
- WHEREAS, the County of San Luis Obispo strongly supports the efforts of the Sexual Assault Recovery & Prevention Center and North County Women's Shelter & Resource Center, and of every citizen, to actively engage in public and private efforts, including conversations about what sexual violence is, how to prevent it, how to help survivors connect with services, and how every segment of our society can work together to better address sexual violence.
- 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 April as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month" in Paso Robles and April 27th as "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes Day."

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, on this 16th day of April, 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

-16-13 CC Agenda Item 13 Page 1 of 1