

City of El Paso de Robles PROCLAMATION

2017 Sexual Assault Awareness Month

WHEREAS, *Sexual Assault Awareness Month calls attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and impacts every person in Paso Robles; and*

WHEREAS, *rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment harm our community, and statistics show that one in five women and one in 71 men will be raped at some point in their lives; 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 age 18, and youth ages 12 to 17 are 2.5 times as likely to be victims of sexual violence; and*

WHEREAS, *Our local student population is also at high-risk - nationally one in five women and one in 16 men are sexually assaulted during their time in college; and*

WHEREAS, *Last year RISE received 1,146 crisis calls from members of our community and sent advocates out 80 times to accompany sexual assault survivors at SART medical exams, law enforcement interviews, etc.; and*

WHEREAS, *The number of RISE clients receiving counseling for sexual assault related issues continues to increase every year, with a total of 2,126 hours of counseling provided at low or no-cost to community members across the County last year; and*

WHEREAS, *The theme of this year's Sexual Assault Awareness Month campaign is, "Engaging New Voices." The campaign calls on new partners and community members to help expand sexual assault prevention efforts and ensure the next generation fosters attitudes that promote healthy relationships, equality, and respect; and*

WHEREAS, *The City of Paso Robles joins RISE and other advocates and communities across the country in taking action to prevent sexual violence, and acknowledges that each day of the year is an opportunity to create change for the future.*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Steven W. Martin, 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**" and April 15th as "**Walk a Mile In Her Shoes Day**" in Paso Robles.

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, on this 4th day of April 2017,
I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the
City of Paso Robles to be affixed.*

*Steven W. Martin, Mayor
City of El Paso de Robles*