

City of El Paso de Robles

PROCLAMATION

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 seventy-one 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 four women and one in sixteen men are sexually assaulted during their time in college; and*

WHEREAS, *Last year RISE received 979 crisis calls from members of our community and sent advocates out 149 times to accompany sexual assault survivors at SART medical exams and law enforcement interviews; and*

WHEREAS, *The number of RISE clients receiving counseling for sexual assault related issues continues to increase every year, with a total of 2,207 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, “Embrace Your Voice.” The campaign promotes language as an agent for change and seeks to empower individuals and communities to speak up, support survivors, and continue having the difficult but important conversations about sexual assault; 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**.*

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, on this 3rd day of April, 2018,
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*