

Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Proclamation

April 2025

Sexual Assault Awareness Month calls attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and impacts every person in every community. This month we aim to raise public awareness about sexual abuse, harassment, assault and educate communities about how to be involved in prevention. This year's campaign theme, Turn Texas Teal, calls on each of us to work together to prevent sexual abuse, harassment, and assault by the power of Togetherness, Empowerment, Advocacy, and Learning (T.E.A.L). Through these efforts, we strive to build more connected, respectful and inclusive communities.

Statistics Show:

- Over 53% of women and over 29% of men reported experiencing sexual violence in their lifetime.
- 80% of rapes are committed by someone known to the victim.
- About half of female victims report being raped by an intimate partner.
- Young people are at higher risk of sexual assault with ages ranging from 12-34 years old.
- Women and girls experience sexual violence at higher rates than men. However, 1 out of every 10 rape victims are male.
- Only 2 - 10% of reported rapes are FALSE
- Many victims do not report to law enforcement. 2 out of 3 Sexual Assaults go unreported. Of these:
 - 20% feared retaliation
 - 13% believed the police would not do anything to help
 - 13% believed it was a personal matter
 - 8% believed it wasn't important enough to report.

As, such we must strive to create strong, connected communities that take care of one another and create a safe environment for victims to seek help. We must make decisions to ensure the safety and well-being of others to end sexual violence and send a clear message that we believe survivors, and we do not tolerate sexual assault in our community.

I join advocates and communities across the country in taking action to prevent sexual violence. April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, and each day of the year is an opportunity to create change for the future.

Name

Date