

2025 Sexual Assault Awareness Month Proclamation

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) aims to raise public awareness about sexual violence, provides access to resources, support, and educates communities about prevention; and

WHEREAS, sexual violence is a widespread issue directly affecting children, families, and entire communities throughout the United States, including right here in Williamson County; and

WHEREAS, every 68 seconds, an American is Sexually Assaulted, and every 9 minutes, that victim is a child, and nationwide, 81% of women and 43% of men reported experiencing some form of sexual harassment and/or assault in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, Williamson County is committed to pursuing justice for and providing resources to survivors of sexual assault, and to educate our community on the need to stand with survivors and protect those most vulnerable in our communities; and

WHEREAS, the Williamson County Children's Advocacy Center and Brave Alliance provide medical forensic exams serving Williamson County children and adult survivors, ensuring a victim-centered approach, and collaboration with law enforcement and the County and District Attorney's Offices; and

WHEREAS, Hope Alliance provides immediate crisis assistance and long-term services through relocation assistance, counseling, and legal advocacy in order to offer a comprehensive approach to healing for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault; and

WHEREAS, the Williamson County Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) is a multidisciplinary group of various law enforcement agencies, judicial systems, victim services professionals, advocacy-based organizations, and medical and mental health service providers working to minimize survivor re-traumatization, while also increasing efficiency within law enforcement response and the judicial process.

NOW THEREFORE, the Commissioners Court of Williamson County, State of Texas, hereby proclaims the month of April 2025 as

Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Urging all members of our community to support survivors of sexual assault, and to strengthen our efforts to prevent this abuse from happening in the first place.

Dated this 1st day of April 2025

Presiding Officer