

Proclamation  
National Sexual Assault Awareness Month  
April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018-April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018

**WHEREAS**, sexual assault is a major social and public policy concern in Washington State and Skamania County, and ending sexual assault is a responsibility of all community systems including, education, health care, emergency shelter, criminal justice, religion and social welfare; and

**WHEREAS**, rape and sexual assault affect women, children and men of all racial, cultural and economic backgrounds; and

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Justice reports that a sexual assault occurs every 98 seconds and the Bureau of Justice Statistics reports that over 77% of rapes are never reported to police; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition to the immediate physical and emotional costs, sexual assault may also have associated consequences of post-traumatic stress disorder, substance abuse, major depression, homelessness, eating disorders, and suicide; and

**WHEREAS**, the Skamania County Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault (SCCDVSA) is committed to empowering and supporting victims/survivors of sexual violence, and to the elimination of all forms of sexual violence through prevention education and community awareness; and

**NOW THEREFORE**, we, the Board of Commissioners of Skamania County are committed to eliminating sexual violence and hereby proclaim the month of April as

*NATIONAL SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH*

In Skamania County, and we urge all individuals and communities to join us in this special observance.

Signed this



Richard Mahar

*absent*

Bob Hamlin



Tom Lannen