



Proclamation
National Sexual Assault Awareness Month
April 1 – April 30, 2017

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 90 seconds and the Bureau of Justice Statistics reports that over 70% 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 28th day of March 2017.

Robert Hamlin
Chair

Tom Lannen
Commissioner

Richard Mahar
Commissioner