

State of Texas\*

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County of Comal\*

# Proclamation

## NAMING THE MONTH OF APRIL 2016 AS "SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH" IN COMAL COUNTY

**WHEREAS**, Sexual Assault Awareness Month is intended to draw attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and impacts every community member of Comal County; and

**WHEREAS**, Violent acts of sexual assault and sexual harassment impact our community as reported by statistics indicating that one in five women and one in twenty men in Texas have experienced sexual assault. In 2015, the Crisis Center of Comal County provided support services for over 400 victims of sexual abuse including child victims. Approximately 80% of sexual assault victims know the person who assaulted them; and

**WHEREAS**, We must work together to educate our community about sexual violence prevention, supporting survivors, and speaking out against harmful attitudes and actions; and

**WHEREAS**, Staff and volunteers of sexual assault prevention programs at the Crisis Center of Comal County encourage every person to speak out when witnessing acts of violence however small; and

**WHEREAS**, With leadership, dedication, and encouragement, there is evidence that we can be successful in preventing sexual violence in Comal County through prevention education, increased awareness, and holding perpetrators who commit acts of sexual violence responsible for their actions; and

**WHEREAS**, We recognize the compassion and dedication of the individuals who first respond to provide services to survivors, such as the Crisis Center of Comal County, the Comal County Sheriff's Office, New Braunfels Police Department, and our emergency medical workers; and

**WHEREAS**, It is important that sexual assault is recognized as a problem and vital to understand that alerting the public about this issue can help empower victims and their loved ones. We encourage every citizen to actively engage in public and private efforts, including conversations about what sexual violence is, how to prevent it, how to help survivors connect with services, and how every segment of our society can work together to better address sexual violence.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Comal County Commissioners Court does proclaim the month of April as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month".

**PASSED AND APPROVED** this the 14<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2016.

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Sherman Krause, County Judge

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Donna Eccleston, Commissioner Pct. 1

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Scott Haag, Commissioner Pct. 2

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Kevin Webb, Commissioner Pct. 3

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Jen Crownover, Commissioner Pct. 4

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bobbie Koepp, County Clerk