

Resolution Recognizing April 2023 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault affects every person in Jim Wells County, Texas either as a victim/survivor of Sexual Assault or as a family member, significant other, friend, neighbor, or co-worker. April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month — a time to draw attention to the prevalence of sexual assault and educate individuals and communities about how to prevent it. Sexual harassment, abuse, and assault are widespread problems. In the United States alone, nearly one in five women and one in 67 men have been raped at some time in their lives; and

WHEREAS, In the United States, about 43.6% of women and 24.8% of men experienced some form of sexual violence in their lifetime, according to the National Intimate Partner and Sexual Violence Survey (NISVS). About 21.3% of women surveyed reported completed or attempted rape at some point in their lives, with 1.2% reporting completed or attempted rape in the 12 months preceding the survey. About 2.6% of men reported experiencing completed or attempted rape at some point in their lives. About 81.3% of female victims and 70.8% of male victims experienced their first completed or attempted rape before the age of 25; and

WHEREAS, One in six boys and one in four girls is sexually abused before the age of 18 (Dube et al., 2005). Sexual abuse can happen to both boys and girls of all ages, races, ethnicities, and family backgrounds. Children are often too scared, confused, or embarrassed to report sexual abuse right away, so it often continues without parents or caregivers knowing about, and

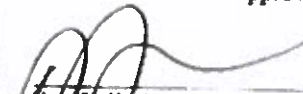


WHEREAS, With the assistance of our Crime Victims' Advocates, we are working to provide quality services to Sexual Assault survivors, assist sexual assault survivors through the criminal justice proceedings; and


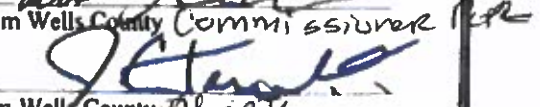

WHEREAS, Jim Wells County recognized a need to increase funding for programs aimed at intervening in and preventing Sexual Assault by encouraging and supporting efforts to bring additional resources to our community; and

WHEREAS, During the month of April, the 79th Judicial District Attorney's Office will be intensifying efforts to promote public understanding of Sexual Assault, increase sensitivity to victims of Sexual Assault, and emphasizing the need for citizen involvement in efforts to reduce Sexual Assault.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Jim Wells County Commissioners Court hereby recognizes April, 2023 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month and call upon our citizens and government agencies to recommit and rededicate ourselves to the goal of eliminating Sexual Assault.

Passed and Approved this 11th day of April, 2023.


Jim Wells County Judge

Marietta K. Brown
Jim Wells County Commissioner Pct. 1

Renee K. Chapa
Jim Wells County Commissioner Pct. 3

ATTEST: 
Jim Wells County Commissioner Pct. 2

Jim Wells County Clerk

Jim Wells County Commissioner Pct. 4