

# *City of San Pablo*

## *Proclamation Recognizing*

### *National Sexual Assault Awareness Month April 2017*

*WHEREAS, In California there were 9,397 forcible rapes in 2014 and 236 forcible rapes reported in Contra Costa County in the same year, with an increasing number affecting adolescents, and*

*WHEREAS, sexual assault affects every person of Contra Costa County as a victim/survivor or as a family member, significant other, neighbor or co-worker of a victim/survivor; and*

*WHEREAS, many citizens of Contra Costa County are working to provide quality services and assistance to sexual assault survivors; and dedicated volunteers help staff 24-hour hotlines, respond to emergency calls and offer support, comfort and advocacy during medical exams, criminal proceedings, and throughout the healing process; and*

*WHEREAS, staff and volunteers of Community Violence Solutions and its Rape Crisis Center, Children's Interview Center, Prevention Department, and Anti-Trafficking Project programs in Contra Costa County are promoting education by offering training to schools, churches, and civic organizations, as well as medical, mental health, law enforcement, education, and criminal justice personnel regarding sexual assault issues; and*

*WHEREAS, it is vitally important that continued educational efforts to provide information about prevention and services for sexual assault be supported and enhanced; and*

*WHEREAS, it is critical to intensify public awareness of sexual assault, to educate people about the need for citizen involvement in efforts to reduce sexual violence, to increase support for agencies providing sexual assault services, and to increase awareness of the healing power of creative expression; and*

*WHEREAS, Community Violence Solutions requests public support and assistance as it continues to work toward a society where all women, children, and men can live in peace, free from violence and exploitation.*

*NOW THEREFORE, I, Cecilia Valdez, Mayor of the City of San Pablo, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of **April 2017** as **"National Sexual Assault Awareness Month."***

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of San Pablo to be affixed this 17<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2017.*

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*Cecilia Valdez, Mayor*