

City of San Pablo

Proclamation Recognizing

National Sexual Assault Awareness Month

April 2021

WHEREAS, In California there were 14,720 forcible rapes in 2019 and 320 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 crisis 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, HOPE Therapy Services 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, Elizabeth Pabon-Alvarado, Mayor of the City of San Pablo, on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim the month of **April 2021** as “**National Sexual Assault Awareness Month**” in the City of San Pablo and support service programs in the belief that all community members must be a part of the solution to end sexual violence.*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of San Pablo to be affixed this 15th day of April, 2019.

Elizabeth Pabon-Alvarado, Mayor