

IN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, LANE COUNTY, OREGON

ORDER No. 02-5- 1 1 ) IN THE MATTER OF PROCLAIMING MAY 2002 AS  
) SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH IN LANE  
) COUNTY

WHEREAS, in our society violence continues to escalate, particularly violence against women and children; and

WHEREAS, sexual violence is not confined to any group or groups of people but involves people of all ages, genders, sexual orientations, economic, racial and ethnic backgrounds, and societal groups; and

WHEREAS, sexual assault and sexual abuse affects every person in Lane County as a victim survivor or as a family member, friend, significant other, neighbor or co-worker of a victim survivor:

WHEREAS, statistics on sexual assault and sexual abuse include:

- In the United States, a woman is assaulted every two minutes;
- One in four women throughout their lifetimes are victims of rape or attempted rape;
- Half of rapes of women over age 30 are a part of domestic violence;
- By the time they reach the age of 18, one in three girls and one in five boys are victims of sexual abuse;
- 84% of victims of sexual assault and sexual abuse knew their assailants
- 7.7% of men reported having been sexually assaulted;
- In 1999, only 28% of known rapes and sexual assaults were reported to law enforcement officials;
- Rape has the lowest conviction rate for any violent crime in the United States, with only 1 in 60 rapists ever convicted; and

WHEREAS, it is vitally important to intensify public awareness of sexual assault, to educate people about the need for citizen involvement in efforts to reduce and end sexual violence, and to increase support for agencies providing sexual assault services; and

WHEREAS, many citizens of Lane County, Oregon are working to provide quality services and assistance to sexual assault survivors, including the over 85 individuals who work through Sexual Assault Support Services to provide 24-hour crisis intervention and support advocacy, support groups, and prevention programs; and

WHEREAS, in Lane County, Oregon, Sexual Assault Support Services and other groups promote the prevention of future sexual violence by offering educational programs on the issues and dynamics of sexual assault and abuse; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of Sexual Assault Awareness Month in our community is to bring about greater awareness of sexual violence issues and how they affect us all; to break the silence around sexual assault; and to encourage everyone in our community to work towards the greater hope of creating a world where all women, children and men can live free from violence;

WHEREAS, the crime of sexual violence is a violation of an individual's right to safety of person, privacy, dignity and humanity; and

WHEREAS; the Lane County Board of Commissioners wishes to acknowledge the work of SASS (Sexual Assault Support Services) and other agencies who work to provide services to past and present victims and survivors of sexual assault and abuse.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Lane County Board of Commissioners proclaims May 2002 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Lane County.

Dated this 1st day of ~~April 2002~~ ~~XXXXXXX~~ May, 2002.

  
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Chair, Lane County Board of Commissioners