



Proclamation

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month is intended to draw attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and has a profound and lasting impact on every community member of Sonoma County; and

WHEREAS, Verity, Sexual Assault Prevention, Intervention & Healing Center, works with over 1,200 survivors in Sonoma County every year with a 24/7/365 crisis and support line and tailored advocacy services at any point in their healing and justice journeys; hosts over 200 presentations and events, reaching over 14,000 community members with age-appropriate outreach and education to prevent sexual violence, encourage people to show up for one another, and recognize signs of unhealthy relationships; and provides hundreds of sessions of individual and group therapy to support people in processing and healing from trauma, and

WHEREAS, nearly half of all women will experience some form of sexual violence; at least 1 in 6 men have experienced sexual abuse or assault; youth under 18, people with disabilities, people of color, queer, transgender, and nonbinary people, homeless people, undocumented people, youth in foster care, and people of other marginalized identities are at much greater risk, and

WHEREAS, over 18,000 members of the military and over 80,000 people who are incarcerated experience sexual violence every year.

NOW, THEREFORE, MAY IT BE RESOLVED, that I, Mark Stapp, Mayor of the city of Santa Rosa, on behalf of the entire City Council, in recognition of our community, do hereby support the efforts of Verity and encourages every resident to actively engage in efforts to end sexual violence, including conversations about what sexual violence is, how to prevent it, how to help survivors of all backgrounds.

APRIL 2026 – SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH



Mayor Mark Stapp
April 21, 2026