

City of Capitola
Mayor's Proclamation
Proclaiming June 2022
Elder Abuse Awareness Month

***WHEREAS**, the City of Capitola is home to more than 2,400 residents age 60 or older who enrich and strengthen our community by serving as leaders, mentors, volunteers and vital members of our community, and deserve to be treated with respect and dignity;*

***WHEREAS**, more than 1,600 reports of abuse against our elderly are received every year by Santa Cruz County Adult Protective Services;*

***WHEREAS**, it is estimated that one out of 10 Americans aged 60 and over have experienced elder abuse, and as few as one out of 24 elder abuse cases are reported;*

***WHEREAS**, as our population lives longer, we are presented with an opportunity to think about our collective needs and future;*

***WHEREAS**, ageism and social isolation are major causes of elder abuse;*

***WHEREAS**, recognizing that it is up to all of us, to ensure that proper social structures exist so people can retain community and societal connection, reducing the likelihood of abuse;*

***WHEREAS**, today there is a system of collaboration among the Human Services Department – Adult and Long-Term Care Services Division, the Santa Cruz County Sheriff's Department, the Capitola Police Department, the District Attorney, Seniors Council (Area Agency on Aging), the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, Public Guardian Program, and many community services partners to prevent abuse, protect victims, and prosecute offenders who abuse our elderly;*

***WHEREAS**, Santa Cruz County is a leader in the State of California in assisting our vulnerable elderly citizens through education, advocacy, and collaboration on abuse issues;*

***NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Sam Storey, Mayor of the City of Capitola, do hereby recognize June 15, 2022, as **WORLD ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS DAY** and do hereby proclaim the month of June to be **ELDER ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH**, and encourage all citizens of the City of Capitola to join me in this observance.*

Sam Storey, Mayor
Signed and sealed this 9th day of June, 2022