



## **DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF APRIL 2022 AS SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, in 2021, Lake County agencies responded to the needs of 201 sexual assault victims and their significant others and/or family members, and

WHEREAS no one person, organization, agency or community can eliminate sexual assault on their own and the partnership between public and private Lake County agencies is invaluable, and

WHEREAS child sexual abuse prevention must be a priority to confront the reality that children are being abused. One in six boys and one in four girls will experience a sexual assault before the age of 18, and

WHEREAS, Lake Family Resource Center has been instrumental in leading the way in the County of Lake in addressing sexual assault by providing 24-hour hotline services, continuing support, advocacy and accompaniment to victims/survivors and their significant others; and

WHEREAS, ending sexual assault in Lake County must include active public and private efforts to Speak Out Against Sexual Violence; and it is time for all of us to start conversations, take appropriate action and support one another to create a safer environment for all residents, and

WHEREAS staff and volunteers of the Lake Family Resource Center Rape Crisis Center work year-round to encourage every person to Speak Out Against Sexual Violence and to support survivors by providing prevention education and survivor empowerment information, and

WHEREAS, Lake Family Resource Center and the District Attorney's office, Victim-Witness Division, local law enforcement agencies, hospitals and schools have set an important example of how forging collaborative relationships improves the quality of service for those impacted by sexual violence, and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the City Council of the City of Clearlake does hereby designate the month of April 2022, as Sexual Assault Awareness Month Clearlake and urges all local governments, schools, businesses and community members to participate in the sponsored events this month to increase awareness and public support for creating communities free from violence and exploitation.

Dated this 7<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2022

Dirk Slooten, Mayor