

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH 2023

WHEREAS, every 68 seconds another person in the United States is sexually assaulted, and in Texas 2 in 5 women and 1 in 5 men are victims of sexual assault; and;

WHEREAS, in fiscal year 2022, the Guadalupe Valley Family Violence Shelter rendered 1,422 services to 370 survivors of sexual violence and provided 65 hospital accompaniments for sexual assault exams; and

WHEREAS, according to a study conducted by the Texas Association Against Sexual Assault and the University of Texas at Austin School of Social Work, approximately 6.3 million Texans have been sexually victimized; and

WHEREAS, most victims are sexually assaulted by someone they know, and 91 percent of victims did not report to police; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to salute the more than 20 million victims who have survived sexual assault in the United States and the efforts of victims, volunteers, and professionals who combat sexual assault; and

WHEREAS, national and community organizations and private sector supporters should be recognized and applauded for their work in promoting awareness about sexual assault; and

WHEREAS, police, forensic workers, and prosecutors should be recognized and commended for their hard work and innovative strategies to increase the percentage of sexual assault cases that resolve in the prosecution and incarceration of the offenders; and

WHEREAS, sexual violence is a persistent and pervasive problem in our society, one that requires attention year-round and in order to foster healthy communities, all citizens must support the effort to end sexual violence every month of the year; and

WHEREAS, national and community organizations, businesses in the private sector, and the media are urged through *National Sexual Assault Awareness* of sexual violence and strategies to decrease the incidence of sexual assault; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Donna Dodgen, Mayor of the City of Seguin, hereby proclaim the month of April 2023 as ***“National Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month”*** in the City of Seguin and urge all citizens to observe this month by supporting the goals and ideas of victims and those working toward awareness and prevention, and by participating in community efforts.

Presented this 4th day of April 2023



It's real.

Donna Dodgen, Mayor

Naomi Manski, City Secretary