



## Proclamation Supporting the Goals of Sexual Assault Awareness Month

**WHEREAS,** Sexual Assault Awareness Month was commemorated nationally for the first time in April 2001 in order to raise awareness and support prevention of sexual assault, harassment, and abuse; and

**WHEREAS,** sexual assault does not discriminate on any basis and can affect any individual in the United States, including children, people with disabilities, people of color, men, immigrants, students on school and college campuses, youth in the juvenile justice system, undocumented persons, LGBTQIA individuals, those who serve in the Armed Forces, and others; and

**WHEREAS,** the local branch of the Sexual Assault Resource Agency (SARA) serves the residents of Albemarle County and the surrounding areas and provides free services to all survivors regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, gender expression or identity, age, economic status, education, parenthood, physical and/or mental abilities, national origin, immigration/documentation status or any other status, reaching 550 survivors and 6,000-8,000 students each year;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that we, the Albemarle County Board of Supervisors, do hereby affirm our commitment to raise awareness within residents of Albemarle County about sexual violence, including how to recognize it, prevent it, and how to support survivors; and we further commit to elevating the voices, leadership, and needs of historically and currently disenfranchised and underserved communities in the effort to eliminate sexual violence and support all survivors.

*Signed this 21st day of April, 2021*

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Ned Gallaway, Chair  
Albemarle Board of County Supervisors