

Proclamation

Sexual Assault Awareness Month

April 2012

WHEREAS, sexual Assault Awareness Month is intended to draw attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and has public health implications for every community member of the Village of Wheeling; and

WHEREAS, rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment impact our community as seen by statistics indicating that one in five women will have experienced sexual assault by the time they complete college (Fisher, Cullen, & Turner, 2000); and

WHEREAS, we must work together to educate our community about what can be done to prevent sexual assault and how to support survivors; and

WHEREAS, staff and volunteers of anti-violence programs at Northwest Center Against Sexual Assault encourage every person to speak out when witnessing acts of violence however small; and

WHEREAS, with leadership, dedication, and encouragement, there is compelling evidence that we can be successful in reducing sexual violence in the Village of Wheeling through prevention education, increased awareness, and holding perpetrators who commit acts of violence responsible for their actions; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Wheeling strongly supports the efforts of national, state, and local partners, and of every citizen to actively engage in public and private efforts, including conversations about what sexual violence is, how to prevent it, how to help survivors connect with services, and how every segment of our society can work together to better address sexual violence.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Village President Judy Abruscato, join anti-sexual violence advocates and support service programs in the belief that all community members must be part of the solution to end sexual violence. Along with the United States Government and State of Illinois I do hereby proclaim April as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month."

DATED: March 26, 2012

President Judy Abruscato

Village Clerk, Elaine E. Simpson

