



**CHATHAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Jim Crawford, Chairman  
Diana Hales, Vice Chair  
Mike Cross  
Karen Howard  
Walter Petty

**COUNTY MANAGER**

Renee Paschal

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Established 1771

**Resolution of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners**

**PROCLAIMING APRIL 2016 AS SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH**

**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; and

**WHEREAS**, rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment impact our community as seen by statistics indicating that 1 in 5 women and 1 in 71 men will be raped at some point in their lives; and

**WHEREAS**, child sexual abuse prevention must be a priority to confront the reality that 1 in 6 boys and 1 in 4 girls will experience a sexual assault before the age of 18; and

**WHEREAS**, young people experience heightened rates of sexual violence, and youth ages 12-17 were 2.5 times as likely to be victims of rape or sexual assault; and

**WHEREAS**, we must work together to educate our community about sexual violence prevention, supporting survivors, and speaking out against harmful attitudes and actions; and

**WHEREAS**, with leadership, dedication, and encouragement, there is evidence that we can be successful in preventing sexual violence through increased education, awareness, and community involvement; and

**WHEREAS**, Family Violence & Rape Crisis Services has served Chatham County residents for over 34 years promoting peaceful homes, building safe communities, and empowering individuals and families to heal from domestic and sexual violence; and

**WHEREAS**, Chatham County strongly supports the efforts of national, state, and local partners, and of every citizen to actively engage in public and private efforts to prevent sexual violence. It's time for all of us to start conversations, take appropriate action and support one another to create a safer environment for all;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, We, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, join advocates and communities across the country in playing an active role to prevent sexual violence. We do hereby proclaim April 2016 as

**"Sexual Assault Awareness Month"**

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused this official seal of Chatham County to be affixed this 18 day of April, 2016.

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James G. Crawford, Chairman  
Chatham County Board of Commissioners

ATTEST:

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Lindsay K. Ray, NCCCC, Clerk to the Board  
Chatham County Board of Commissioners