

**RESOLUTION
OF THE GOVERNING BOARD
OF THE SANTA BARBARA COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT**

**Resolution No. 7
RECOGNIZING APRIL AS SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH**

WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month is intended to draw attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and impacts every person in this community; and

WHEREAS, rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment harm our community, and statistics show that 1 in 3 women and 1 in 6 men will be raped at some point in their lives; college-age women are three times more likely to experience sexual violence. According to RAINN, 26% of women, 23% of LGBTQ+ individuals, and 7% of men have reported experiencing sexual assault during college. As a result, 34% of those affected by sexual violence drop out of college; and

WHEREAS, we all have a role to play in preventing and ending sexual assault. Sexual violence disproportionately affects individuals from marginalized communities, including people of color, LGBTQ+ individuals, and those with disabilities. Santa Barbara City College (SBCC) is committed to addressing these disparities and ensuring that all survivors are heard, supported, and protected; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to intensify local efforts to advocate for survivors and to promote strategies that create safe environments for all students, faculty, and staff; and

WHEREAS, SBCC is committed to creating a campus environment where sexual assault is unacceptable, and survivors are supported both in their personal recovery and in their pursuit of academic success; and

WHEREAS, SBCC has implemented trauma-informed policies that align with the requirements of Federal Title IX and California State law, and encourages students to actively engage in awareness and prevention efforts, and to be allies in supporting survivors of sexual violence; and

WHEREAS, in-person and on-line training is provided to SBCC employees and students by the Title IX Department, The Well, and often in collaboration with Standing Together to End Sexual Assault (STESA) and UCSB Campus Advocacy Resources & Education (CARE). STESA and CARE are content experts in intervention and prevention of sexual assault. The presentations are designed to educate students and staff about sexual violence prevention, support for survivors, and ensure that perpetrators are held accountable; and

WHEREAS, SBCC recognizes the importance of partnering with local, state, and national organizations like Standing Together to End Sexual Assault to support the movement to end sexual violence and to provide resources and advocacy for the campus community; and

WHEREAS, support for survivors includes not only emotional and psychological care, but also advocacy for their academic success, legal rights, and access to campus resources. The Thriving Initiative provides a free, confidential seven-week workshop series at The WELL each semester for survivors of sexual assault, stalking, or domestic violence and fosters healing and community at SBCC; and

NOW, THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Santa Barbara Community College District, hereby designates April as Sexual Assault Awareness Month and pledges to continue its efforts to promote awareness, prevention, and support throughout the campus and community.

The foregoing RESOLUTION was adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Santa Barbara Community College District at a meeting of the Board duly called and held on the 20th day of March, by the following vote, to wit:

Aye: Trustees Abboud, Black-Maertz, Croninger, Gullap-Moore, Morris, Richards, and Stoddard

No:

Abstain:

Absent:

Advisory: Student Trustee Tan



Jonathan Abboud, President
Board of Trustees



Erika Endrijonas, Ph.D.
Superintendent/President and
Secretary to the Board of Trustees