



THE NAVAJO NATION

Proclamation

Navajo Nation Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month

WHEREAS, sexual violence is a major public health, social justice, and human rights issue and Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month brings attention to the fact that sexual violence is widespread and impacts every person in our communities;

WHEREAS, statistics indicate that rape, sexual assault, and sexual harassment show one in five women and one in 71 men will be raped or sexually assaulted at some point in their lives;

WHEREAS, too often many of these crimes are not reported and bring unnecessary harm in a variety of forms to those victims, their families and the community;

WHEREAS, this month the Navajo Nation reaffirms our commitment to prevent this human rights violation by promoting healthy relationships and reminding each other to respect each other and treat each other with dignity;

WHEREAS, each of us as leaders, employers, friends, and family can be part of this effort by speaking out against harmful attitudes, actions and these crimes; support victims and survivors; and bring perpetrators to justice; and

WHEREAS, prevention is possible when communities unite, the Navajo Nation, hereby recommits to increasing education, awareness and community involvement and take action to create a safer environment for us all and stand with survivors and victims of sexual assault.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that I, Russell Begaye, President of the Navajo Nation, and Jonathan Nez, Vice President of the Navajo Nation do hereby proclaim April, 2016 as Navajo Nation Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention month and urge the Navajo people to support survivors of sexual assault and work together to prevent these crimes in their communities.

Proclaimed this 14th day of April, 2016

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Russell Begaye".

Russell Begaye, *President*
THE NAVAJO NATION

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jonathan Nez".

Jonathan Nez, *Vice President*
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