

1 [Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month – April 2026]

2 **Resolution recognizing April 2026 as Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention**  
3 **Month in the City and County of San Francisco.**

4 WHEREAS, Sexual violence remains an urgent public health issue that affects  
5 individuals of all ages, genders, and backgrounds across the United States; and

6 WHEREAS, According to the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs,  
7 Bureau of Justice Statistics, Sex Offenses and Offenders, youth between the ages of  
8 and 34 are the highest risk years for rape and sexual assault; and

9 WHEREAS, The United States Department of Health and Human Services,  
10 Administration for Children and Families, Administration on Children, Youth and  
11 Families, Children’s Bureau’s Child Maltreatment Survey in 2016 substantiated, or  
12 found strong evidence to indicate that 57,329 children were victims of sexual abuse;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, According to the National Sexual Violence Center, youth who have  
15 experienced sexual violence are more likely to develop PTSD, substance use disorder,  
16 depression and consider or attempt suicide; and

17 WHEREAS, A study conducted by the National Institute of Health showed 47% of  
18 teenagers seek mental health support a year before they were assaulted, increasing to  
19 80% a year after the assault; and

20 WHEREAS, The examples mental health effects of sexual assault among youth  
21 include emotional reactions such as fear, shame, humiliation, guilt, and self-blame,  
22 symptoms of post-traumatic stress, and a distorted self-perception of themselves<sup>1</sup>; and

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<sup>1</sup> “Adult Manifestations of Childhood Sexual Abuse,” American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, August 2011, <https://www.acog.org/clinical/clinical-guidance/committee-opinion/articles/2011/08/adult-manifestations-of-childhood-sexual-abuse>.

1 WHEREAS, Sexual violence disproportionately impacts BIPOC communities,  
2 and Black and Hispanic youth in San Francisco are more likely to experience violence  
3 from their partner; and

4 WHEREAS, Sexual assault remains the highest underreported crime among  
5 youth, where over 60% of youth in the US do not file a report; and

6 WHEREAS, According to the Center of Disease Control and Prevention, more  
7 than 4 in 5 female rape survivors reported that they were raped before the age of 25,  
8 and almost half were first raped as a minor; and

9 WHEREAS, According to the National Sexual Violence Resource Center, one in  
10 three female victims of completed or attempted rape experienced it between the ages of  
11 11 and 17; and

12 WHEREAS, In 2025, SFUSD recently settled a sexual assault lawsuit for \$1.5  
13 million stemming from a case a decade ago where a high school teacher-counselor was  
14 accused of grooming a student, and school officials allegedly ignored it<sup>2</sup>; and

15 WHEREAS, In 2021, students from over eight schools in SFUSD walked out in  
16 support of sexual assault victims and SFUSD's response to sexual assault cases; and,  
17 now, therefore be it

18 RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission recognizes April 2026  
19 as Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month in the City and County of San  
20 Francisco; and be it

21 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission urges the  
22 Mayor, Board of Supervisors, and other elected officials representing San Francisco to

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<sup>2</sup> "SFUSD Reaches \$1.5M Settlement in Sex Abuse Lawsuit Involving Former Counselor," CBS News, May 14, 2025, <https://www.cbsnews.com/sanfrancisco/news/sfusd-1-5m-settlement-sex-abuse-lawsuit-former-teacher-counselor-harlen-edelman/>.

1 recognize the month of April 2026 as Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month  
2 to educate the impacts of sexual assault amongst young people in the City and County  
3 of San Francisco; and be it

4 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Youth Commission staff be  
5 directed to transmit copies of this resolution to the Office of the Mayor, the Board of  
6 Supervisors, and other elected officials representing the City and County of San  
7 Francisco.