



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: The many voices of those who have been victims of sexual violence must be supported and heard; and
- WHEREAS: Every child deserves to grow up in an environment that supports their ability to reach their full potential; and
- WHEREAS: Childhood sexual abuse is a recognized, adverse childhood experience, which ten percent of Minnesotans reported in Minnesota's 2011 Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System survey; and
- WHEREAS: Young people are among the populations most heavily affected by sexual violence; and
- WHEREAS: Research suggests that adverse childhood experiences are specifically linked to poor physical and mental health, chronic disease, lower educational achievement, lower economic success, and impaired social success in adulthood; and
- WHEREAS: Research also suggests that targeting a variety of positive child development experiences can have a short-term impact on prevention of child sexual abuse and exploitation and a long-term impact on reducing sexual violence; and
- WHEREAS: A growing number of Minnesota leaders are committed to sexual violence prevention; and
- WHEREAS: All Minnesotans must be part of the solution to eliminate crimes of sexual violence.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of April 2013 as:

## SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of Minnesota.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 27<sup>th</sup> day of March.

  
GOVERNOR





SECRETARY OF STATE