

Dear CSUSM community,

April is nationally recognized as Sexual Assault Awareness Month, a time to honor survivors, educate ourselves and take action against sexual harm as significant public health and social justice issues.

Sexual harm impacts the lives of individuals every day. Nearly <u>one in five women</u>, <u>one in</u> <u>six men</u> and nearly <u>one of every two trans and non-binary persons</u> have been sexually harmed by someone at some time in their lives. At CSUSM, we believe that sexual violence is unacceptable and contrary to our values. **Everyone** has a right to be safe.

Ending sexual harm – which includes stalking, sexual harassment, intimate partner harm, sexual assault and rape - requires the leadership and participation of <u>all of us</u>.

Throughout April, the HOPE & Wellness Center has hosted many events, with several yet to come. You can view a full list of upcoming events <u>online or by following</u> <u>@csusmhope on social media</u>.

In addition, I want to ensure that our community is aware of on- and off-campus services that offer resources and support.

Sexual violence advocates and educators

Our compassionate <u>sexual violence advocates and educators</u> are located in the Student Health & Counseling Services building. Individuals may reach out to them for traumainformed support and advocacy in a confidential environment to learn about options and rights. Services are available to all CSUSM students and employees.

Our sexual violence advocates and educators provide a variety of programs and trainings to educate and build awareness of the complex issues surrounding sexual assault, including bystander intervention training and education for students, faculty and staff. To schedule a training or learn more, visit our <u>Sexual Violence Prevention and</u> <u>Education website</u>.

Other on-campus resources

- <u>Student Health & Counseling Services</u>
- <u>Women and Gender Equity Center</u>
- Title IX office
- <u>University Police Department</u>

Off-campus resources

- Center for Community Solutions
- <u>Women's Resource Center</u>
- U.S. Department of Education's, Office for Civil Rights

While April serves as a focal month to unite efforts across our country to speak up and against sexual violence, let's continue to raise awareness of sexual violence and deepen our commitment to creating a campus culture that prevents violence and supports survivors <u>year round</u> for every member of our community.

In solidarity,

Ellen Neufeldt

President

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