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 one in five women, one in six men and nearly one of every two trans and non-binary persons 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 all of us. Throughout April, the HOPE & Wellness Center has hosted many events, with several yet to come. You can view a full list of upcoming events online or by following @csusmhope on social media.

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 sexual violence advocates and educators are located in the Student Health & Counseling Services building. Individuals may reach out to them for trauma-informed 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 Sexual Violence Prevention and Education website.

**Other on-campus resources**

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

**Off-campus resources**

- Center for Community Solutions
- Women’s Resource Center
- 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 year round for every member of our community.

In solidarity,
Ellen Neufeldt
President