

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, sexual assault affects every adult and child in South Carolina, as a victim survivor or as a family member, loved one, friend, neighbor or coworker of a victim; and

WHEREAS, sexual assault is one of the most devastating crimes in our society today, with victims often suffering lifelong pain from physical injury and serious emotional trauma; and

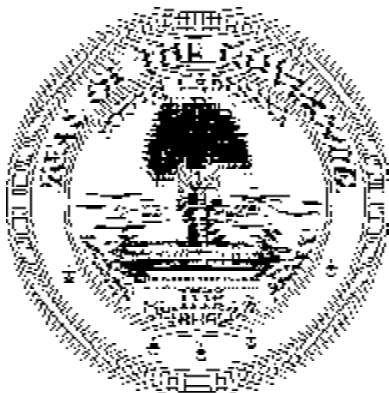
WHEREAS, volunteers and service providers in our communities are dedicated to providing care to sexual assault survivors through 24-hour hotlines, counseling, support groups, advocacy, medical care and education; and

WHEREAS, the 2003 observance of Sexual Assault Awareness Month provides an opportunity to raise public awareness of sexual assault and to educate people about the need for citizen involvement in efforts to reduce sexual violence.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Mark Sanford, Governor of the Great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim April 2003 as

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to work together to prevent sexual assault and ensure a life free from harm for the citizens of the Palmetto State.



A stylized, handwritten signature of Mark Sanford in black ink.

MARK SANFORD
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA