

MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

PROCLAMATION NO. 7

Proclaiming the Week of April 6th through April 12th, 2025 as "National Crime Victims' Rights Week". Proclaiming the month of April 2025 as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month" and "Child Abuse Awareness Month" in Multnomah County, Oregon.

Multnomah County Finds:

- A. All residents of Multnomah County deserve to live in safe communities, free from the fear of crime and violence of all kinds, including sexual violence and violence against children.
- B. Each year, countless individuals in our community suffer the devastating impact of crime and violence, which results in physical and emotional pain, financial loss, and enduring trauma.
- C. Upholding crime victims' rights ensures that victims of crime are given meaningful access to a system that can otherwise be inaccessible, and that their voice can be heard as key stakeholders impacted by the outcome of the justice system.
- D. This year, National Crime Victims' Rights Week uplifts the concept of kinship and how this underscores the connections that build bridges to support, services, and shared strength among survivors, advocates, and communities.
- E. We recognize that crime and violence disproportionately affects marginalized communities, exacerbating existing inequalities and injustices, and are committed to offering culturally responsive services.
- F. By providing comprehensive options and services that are responsive to the diverse needs of victims and survivors, we strive to create a more just system centered on each victims' foundational right to be treated with dignity and respect.
- G. In recognition of this year's Sexual Assault Awareness Month theme, "Together We Act, United We Change", we emphasize the importance of communities and agencies working together to effectively respond to instances of sexual assault, and show our unwavering support to victims and survivors by believing them, providing supportive services, fighting for justice, and working to prevent future harm.
- H. In acknowledgment of Child Abuse Awareness Month, we recognize that child abuse and neglect is a serious public health and safety problem that impacts our entire community.
- I. Child abuse and neglect has long-term physical, psychological, emotional and

social effects that have lasting consequences for victims and survivors of abuse into adulthood.

- J. We acknowledge that all of us in Multnomah County must work together to increase awareness about child abuse and together promote the social and emotional well-being of children and families in a safe, stable, nurturing environment.

Multnomah County Proclaims:

The week of April 6 through April 12, 2025, to be National Crime Victims' Rights Week, and the month of April 2025 to be Sexual Assault Awareness Month and Child Abuse Awareness Month in Multnomah County, Oregon. Multnomah County reaffirms its commitment to victims services and criminal justice response that not only supports crime victim rights, but provides meaningful options and services to support a journey of restoration and healing for all victims of crime.

SIGNED this 2nd day of April 2025.

Jessica Vega Pederson
SC
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[Signature]

REVIEWED:
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FOR MULTNOMAH COUNTY, OREGON

By Jenny Madkour
Jenny Madkour, County Attorney

SUBMITTED BY: Nathan Vasquez, District Attorney and Denise Peña, Director,
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