

## **SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH**

**WHEREAS, sexual assault affects women, children, and men of all racial, cultural, and economic backgrounds, causing long-term physical, psychological, and emotional harm; and**

**WHEREAS, in Richland County, Ohio, we stand with survivors, advocates, and organizations dedicated to preventing sexual violence and offering support to those affected by it; and**

**WHEREAS, The Domestic Violence Shelter serving Richland County, Ohio, plays a crucial role in supporting survivors, providing safe spaces, advocating for justice, and educating our community about prevention and support; and**

**WHEREAS, Sexual Assault Awareness Month is observed nationally in April, offering an opportunity for communities to unite in raising awareness, promoting safety, and preventing sexual violence; and**

**WHEREAS, it is vital for survivors of sexual assault to know they are not alone, and that there are resources available to them including the comprehensive services offered by The Domestic Violence Shelter and other allied organizations; and**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, we the Richland County Board of Commissioners do hereby proclaim April 2024 as SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH with the theme**

### **END SEXUAL VIOLENCE, SHAPE OHIO TOGETHER**

**in Richland County and urge all citizens to recognize this month by participating in community education efforts and supporting survivors of sexual assault. We commend the work of The Domestic Violence Shelter and all advocates who dedicate themselves to preventing sexual violence and aiding those affected by it. Together, we can create a safer, more supportive community for everyone. Let this proclamation serve as a reminder of our collective responsibility to foster a community where every individual is respected, violence is unacceptable, and survivors are supported in their healing journey.**

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have set our hand and caused our seal to be affixed this 2nd day of April, in the year of our Lord, two thousand twenty-four.**

**Darrell E. Banks**

**Anthony M. Vero**

**Cliff Mears  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
RICHLAND COUNTY, OHIO**