



MUNICIPALITY OF SKAGWAY, ALASKA

PROCLAMATION

IN SUPPORT OF
THE PREVENTION OF SEXUAL ASSAULT AND INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE
IN SKAGWAY

WHEREAS, Alaska's sexual assault rate is the highest in the nation at 4 times the national average impacting both rural and urban areas at devastating rates. 59% of women in Alaska have experienced intimate partner violence, sexual violence, or both; and

WHEREAS, the majority of individuals who experience rape/sexual assault and nearly half of those who experience intimate partner violence do not report to the police. Rape and sexual assault are the most underreported crimes in our nation. Skagway acknowledges that this under reporting of sexual assault/rape/intimate partner violence is also happening in our community; and

WHEREAS, survivors of sexual assault and intimate partner violence suffer long term effects and reactions which may include; PTSD, anxiety, depression, insomnia, addiction, and suicide. Survivors of sexual trauma and intimate partner violence often suffer in silence with debilitating feelings of guilt, shame, and lack of self-worth; and

WHEREAS, the municipality recognizes a historical lack of resources, data, and protocols in place in our community for victims of sexual assault or intimate partner violence and vows to create and help facilitate a network of resources to support survivors including the training and maintenance of local advocates, medical staff and our police officers via the SART (Sexual Assault Response Teams program); and

WHEREAS, the municipality does recognize there is help available immediately by calling The Skagway Police Department at 911 or 907-983-2232 to report your assault. Medical assistance and rape kit exams are available at the Dahl Memorial Clinic 907-983-2255. ADVOCACY ASSISTANCE SAFE SHELTER AND LEGAL ADVICE are all available by calling AWARE in Juneau at 1-800-478-1090 or 907-586-1090. Mental health services are available at Dahl Memorial Clinic, AWARE, Taiya Counseling Services 907-983-2459, SEARHC Behavioral Health (877) 294-0074, and the National Sexual Assault Hotline 1-800-656-HOPE.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ANDREW CREMATA, Mayor of the Municipality of Skagway, do hereby proclaim that the Municipality of Skagway will actively support the prevention and prosecution of Sexual assault and intimate partner violence in our community. We officially declare a zero-tolerance policy towards such acts of violence and encourage reporting so survivors can get the vital support they deserve.

Andrew Cremata, Mayor

ATTEST:

Steve Burnham Jr., Borough Clerk
(SEAL)