

PROCLAMATION

OF THE

MENDOCINO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

RECOGNIZING SURVIVOR VOICES: ELEVATE, ENGAGE,
EFFECT CHANGE

CRIME VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK: APRIL 23-29 2023

WHEREAS, crime victims' rights acts passed here in California and at the federal level guarantee victims the right to meaningfully participate and use their voice in the criminal justice process; and

WHEREAS, victim service providers, advocates, law enforcement officers, attorneys, and other allied professionals can help survivors find their justice by enforcing these rights; and

WHEREAS, the right to provide an impact statement ensures that victims' voices are considered in court during the sentencing and, when applicable, restitution processes; and

WHEREAS, including and elevating the voices of survivors makes certain they are heard and seen and creates a path to forging and sustaining community trust; and

WHEREAS, engaging survivors creates responses and services that are credible, meaningful, and centered on individual needs; and

WHEREAS, survivors' lived experience can serve as a catalyst for implementing innovative programs, shifting existing programs in new directions, and changing policies or practices that prevent survivors from accessing services or pursuing justice; and

WHEREAS, Crime Victims' Rights Week provides an opportunity to recommit to listening to crime survivors in every space where decisions are made that could impact them; and

WHEREAS, *Mendocino County* is hereby dedicated to amplifying the voices of survivors and creating an environment where survivors have the confidence that they will be heard, believed, and supported.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Mendocino, hereby proclaims April 23-29 , 2023, as:

“Crime Victim Rights Week”

Dated: April 11, 2023

Glenn McGourty, Chair