



*Connecting families & communities through safety & hope*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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FOR MORE INFORMATION  
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## **Angelina S.A.V.E. Coalition and the Family Crisis Center Partner to Commemorate Sexual Assault Awareness Month**

April has been declared Sexual Assault Awareness Month (SAAM) in the United States. The goal of SAAM is to raise public awareness of sexual violence and to educate communities and individuals on how to prevent sexual violence. This year's theme is "Step Up for Change!"

The Angelina S.A.V.E. Coalition, along with the Family Crisis Center of East Texas, is holding public activities throughout April to call attention to this important cause. "A Call to Prayer Day" is an all day event on Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. The "Call to Prayer Day" is a day designated for the community to pray for victims and survivors of sexual violence, organized by the Angelina S.A.V.E. Coalition.

"Prevention in the Park" is scheduled for Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at Louis Bronaugh Park, across from Lufkin City Hall, from 12:00 p.m. until 1:00 p.m. To commemorate Sexual Assault Awareness Month, 229 balloons will be released to represent the 228 victims of sexual assault, plus one for all the silent victims, the Family Crisis Center helped in 2012. Guests will enjoy a free lunch and a short program by community members. April 25<sup>th</sup> is also Denim Day. Community members are encouraged to wear denim and the "Why Denim?" buttons, which will be available on at [www.FamilyCrisisCenterOfEastTexas.com](http://www.FamilyCrisisCenterOfEastTexas.com). "Step Up for Change" t-shirts are also available online.

The S.A.V.E. Coalition of Angelina County continues to advance its mission of committing to investigate the root causes of sexual violence within their community. The S.A.V.E. Coalition seeks to provide training and/or education to its team members and the community in addition to facilitating communication forums around the topic of sexual violence prevention.

The Family Crisis Center of East Texas continues to advance its mission of enhancing the safety of women, children and men by providing crisis intervention and advocacy services to reduce and prevent the occurrence of family violence and sexual assault through education and community awareness. The agency provides numerous services and last year alone provided 1,154 residential and non-residential clients with over 75,000 essential services.

For more information regarding Sexual Assault Awareness Month activities occurring in the area, or to find out how you can assist the agency, contact Susan Robertson at (936) 639-1681 or [srobertsonwset@suddenlinkmail.com](mailto:srobertsonwset@suddenlinkmail.com).

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