

Connecting families & communities through safety & hope

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The Family Crisis Center of East Texas Commemorates Sexual Assault Awareness Month in Angelina County

Throughout the month of April, the Family Crisis Center of East Texas will raise public awareness about Sexual Assault by holding public activities and events in the area. This year's theme is "Superhero-No Cape Required," in hopes to remind the public that community members and victims who speak out against sexual assault are all heroes.

The Family Crisis Center will kick off the month by holding "Prevention in the Park" on Friday, April 11th 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, 201 balloons will be released to represent the 200 victims of sexual assault, plus one for all the silent victims, the Family Crisis Center served in 2013. Guests will enjoy a free lunch and a short program by community members.

Later that night, the Family Crisis Center along with the Angelina S.A.V.E. Coalition will be holding a Movie Night open free to the public. Join us for the showing of the 1978 American musical, *Grease*, Friday, April 11th at the Pines Theater in Lufkin. We will begin the event at 6:30 p.m. Donations will be accepted in lieu of admission. Attendees are encouraged to dress as their favorite character.

Also this year, the Family Crisis Center is partnering with Zavalla ISD and introducing the Superhero Day Poster Contest for children in grades K-5th. Zavalla ISD students will be making anti-bullying posters. On Friday, April 25th, there will be a program for each grade featuring a story on bullying, a short activity, and winners the annoucement of the poster contest. There will be one winner per grade level.

You can also show your support for Sexual Assault Awareness Month by purchasing the official, "Superhero-No Cape Required" t-shirt at www.fccet.com. The shirts are \$5 plus shipping and can be purchased starting now through April 30th. We would like to thank Dolphin Printing in Nacogdoches who generously donated a portion of the cost of the t-shirts.

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 1,185 residential and non-residential clients with over 102,000 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, visit our website, www.fccet.com, or contact Susan Robertson at the Family Crisis Center of East Texas at (936) 639-1681 or srobertsonwset@suddenlinkmail.com.

