

DENIM WEEK 2026

Sample Proclamation

This sample proclamation is designed to support rape crisis centers in engaging local leaders, organizations, and communities in recognizing Denim Day. Centers are encouraged to customize this language to reflect their community, highlight local impact, and invite meaningful participation in raising awareness and preventing sexual violence.

Proclamation Recognizing Denim Day 2026 (informal)

The creation of Denim Day began in April 1999 as a powerful act of protest by the women of the Italian Parliament in response to a high court decision that overturned a rape conviction based on the victim wearing tight denim jeans. This outcome sparked global outrage and action.

Denim Day serves as a visible reminder that rape and sexual assault continue to impact individuals and communities every day. A reminder that it affects survivors, their families, loved ones, colleagues, and the professionals who support them. It also stands as a clear and unwavering statement: victim-blaming has no place in our society and is never an acceptable response to sexual abuse, assault, or harassment.

Every American, regardless of age, race, culture, or gender, deserves to live free from harm and free from the fear of sexual violence.

The foundation of prevention is trust. Leaders at every level, within workplaces, schools, and communities, must invest in prevention education, foster environments rooted in respect and accountability, and ensure that disclosures are met with fairness, support, and meaningful action.

On April 29, 2026, [Center name] invites our community to wear denim as a symbol of solidarity and resistance. Together, we stand with survivors, reject victim-blaming, and commit to building a culture grounded in respect, consent, and safety for all.



Proclamation Recognizing Denim Day 2026 (formal)

WHEREAS, Denim Day began in April 1999 as a powerful act of protest by the women of the Italian Parliament in response to a high court decision that overturned a rape conviction based on the victim wearing tight denim jeans—an outcome that sparked global outrage and galvanized a movement for justice; and

WHEREAS, Denim Day serves as a visible reminder that rape and sexual assault continue to impact individuals and communities every day, affecting survivors, their families, loved ones, colleagues, and the professionals who support them; and

WHEREAS, Denim Day stands as a clear and unwavering statement that victim-blaming has no place in our society and is never an acceptable response to sexual abuse, assault, or harassment; and

WHEREAS, every person, regardless of age, race, culture, or gender, deserves to live free from harm and free from the fear of sexual violence; and

WHEREAS, the foundation of prevention is trust, and leaders at every level—within workplaces, schools, and communities—must invest in prevention education, foster environments rooted in respect and accountability, and ensure that disclosures are met with fairness, support, and meaningful action; and

WHEREAS, [Center Name] plays a vital role in supporting survivors and strengthening communities by providing advocacy, resources, and education to prevent sexual violence across [service area];

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that [Mayor/Commissioners/Organization Name] hereby recognizes April 29, 2026, as Denim Day, and encourages all community members to wear denim as a symbol of solidarity and resistance; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we stand together to support survivors, reject victim-blaming, and commit to building a culture grounded in respect, consent, and safety for all.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I/we have hereunto set my/our hand(s) this ___ day of _____, 2026.

[Name]
[Title]

