

**ROSEVILLE**  
**REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION**

Date: May 9, 2016

Item No.: 14.a

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Department Approval

City Manager Approval



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Item Description: Adopt a Resolution Support Ramsey County's "A Start by Believing Community Initiative"

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1 **BACKGROUND**

2 The Ramsey County Board and the Ramsey County Attorney's Office has begun an initiative to  
3 address the continuing problem of sexual violence and provide support for sexual violence  
4 survivors through training, education, and outreach. Ramsey County has asked that municipal  
5 jurisdictions in Ramsey County pass resolutions of support of its initiative. To date, several other  
6 Ramsey County municipalities have passed resolutions of support.

7 **BUDGET IMPLICATIONS**

8 None

9 **STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

10 Staff recommends passing a resolution of support for Ramsey County's "A Start By Believing  
11 Community Initiative". The resolution of support is included as Attachment A.

12 **REQUESTED COUNCIL ACTION**

13 Motion to pass a resolution of support for Ramsey County's "A Start By Believing Community  
14 Initiative".

Prepared by: Patrick Trudgeon, City Manager (651) 792-7021

Attachments: A: Resolution of Support

**EXTRACT OF MINUTES OF MEETING  
OF THE  
CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ROSEVILLE**

\* \* \* \* \*

1 Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a regular meeting of the City Council of the City  
2 of Roseville, County of Ramsey, Minnesota, was duly held on the 9th day of May, 2016,  
3 at 6:00 p.m.

4  
5 The following members were present::; and the following members were absent:.

6  
7 Member introduced the following resolution and moved its adoption:

8  
9 **RESOLUTION No.**

10  
11 **RESOLUTION SUPPORTING “RAMSEY COUNTY: A START BY BELIEVING**  
12 **COMMUNITY” INITIATIVE**

13  
14 **WHEREAS**, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports 1 in 6  
15 women and 1 in 33 men in the United States experience rape or attempted rape, at some  
16 point in their lives, and data from other sources report the rate for women is as high as 1  
17 in 4; and

18  
19 **WHEREAS**, according to a study by the University of Minnesota, the number of  
20 Minnesota women reporting a date-related sexual assault rises from 12 percent by the  
21 time they graduate from high school, 29 percent by age 23, to 33 percent by mid-life; and

22  
23 **WHEREAS**, an analysis of the Minnesota Student Survey data by the University of  
24 Minnesota estimated 60 percent of teen first pregnancies in Minnesota are preceded by  
25 experiences of molestation, rape, or attempted rape; and

26  
27 **WHEREAS**, 188 cases of child sexual abuse in Ramsey County were identified among  
28 reported cases of maltreatment in 2011; and

29  
30 **WHEREAS**, current estimates suggest no more than 20 percent of sexual assaults will be  
31 reported to law enforcement and less than 3 percent will result in the conviction and  
32 incarceration of the perpetrator; and

33  
34 **WHEREAS**, research documents that victims are far more likely to disclose their sexual  
35 assault to a friend or family member, and when these loved ones respond with disbelief,  
36 shame, or blame, victims suffer additional negative effects on their physical and

37 psychological well-being and do not report their assault to law enforcement; and

38

39 **WHEREAS**, the national public awareness campaign “Start by Believing” is designed to  
40 improve the initial responses of friends, family members, and community professionals,  
41 including law enforcement and prosecutors, so they can help victims to access supportive  
42 resources and report their assaults; and

43

44 **WHEREAS**, Ramsey County has worked collaboratively across departments and with  
45 community partners for many years to prevent and respond to sexual violence in the  
46 community; and

47

48 **WHEREAS**, public health and the criminal justice system have different roles and  
49 responsibilities, but are united in the goals to prevent and reduce sexual violence in our  
50 community, from children to vulnerable adults;

51

52 **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Roseville City Council, that the City  
53 will join with its neighboring municipalities in addressing the continuing problem of  
54 sexual violence through its support of the Ramsey County: A Start by Believing  
55 Community Initiative and its goal for everyone to believe victims upon report.

56

57 The motion for the adoption of the foregoing resolution was duly seconded by Member and  
58 upon vote being taken thereon, the following voted in favor thereof: and the following voted  
59 against the same:

60

61 **WHEAREUPON** said resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

