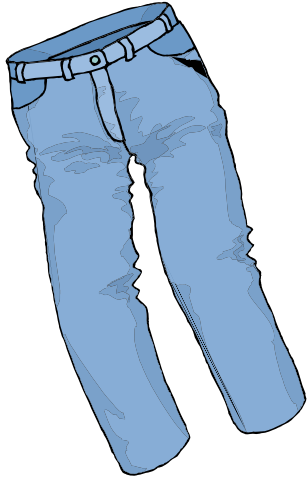


Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Wednesday, April 21
"Wear Denim to Work Day"



Wearing jeans on "Denim Day", during April's National Sexual Assault Awareness Month has become an international symbol of protest against erroneous and destructive attitudes about sexual assault. Community members throughout Saginaw County can show their support by contributing \$5.00 and wearing jeans/denim to work. Proceeds will benefit the Sexual Assault Center's Nurse Examiner Program at Child & Family Services

About Denim Day—the History

Rome—Italy, 1997

An 18-year-old girl is raped and abandoned by her 45 year old perpetrator in an alley. Undeterred, she prosecuted him and won. The perpetrator was convicted of rape and sentenced to jail.

Months later, 1998

The perpetrator appeals the sentence. The case makes it all the way to the Italian Supreme Court. Within a matter of days the case against the driving instructor is overturned, dismissed, and the perpetrator released.

Why Denim?

In a statement released by the Head Judge, he argued, "because the victim wore very, very tight jeans, she had to help him remove them... and by removing the jeans... it was no longer rape but consensual sex." Enraged by the verdict, within a matter of hours the Women in the Italian Parliament launched into immediate action and protested by wearing JEANS to work. This call to action motivated and emboldened the California Senate and Assembly to do the same, and Denim Day was born.

Join Us Today

For more information on how you and your co-worker can join in on "Wear Denim to Work Day" e-mail Carrie Schultz at cschultz@cfs-saginaw.org or call her at 989-790-7500 ext. 229.

